



STORIES of STRANGE ADVENTURE

No 42-APRIL

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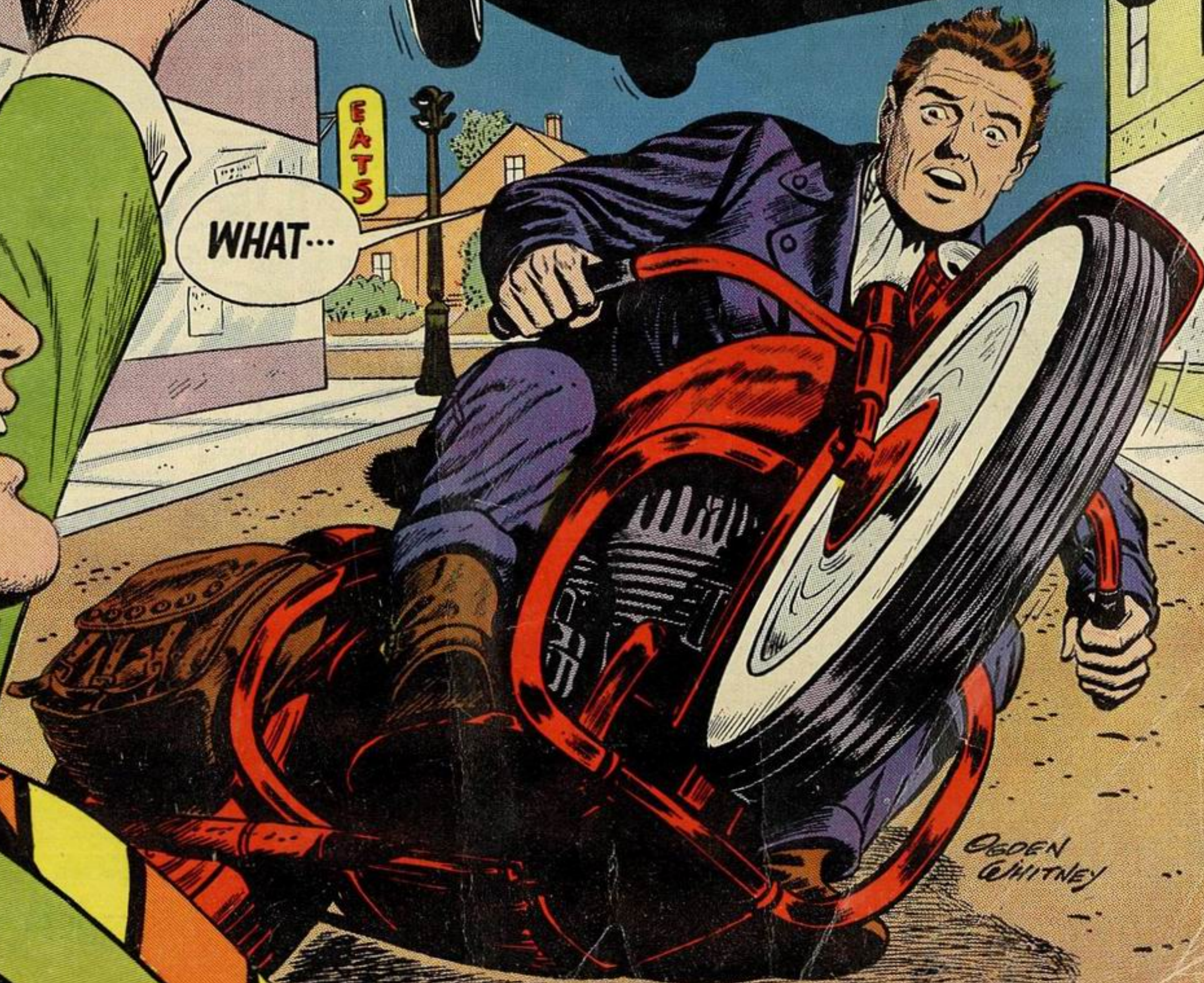
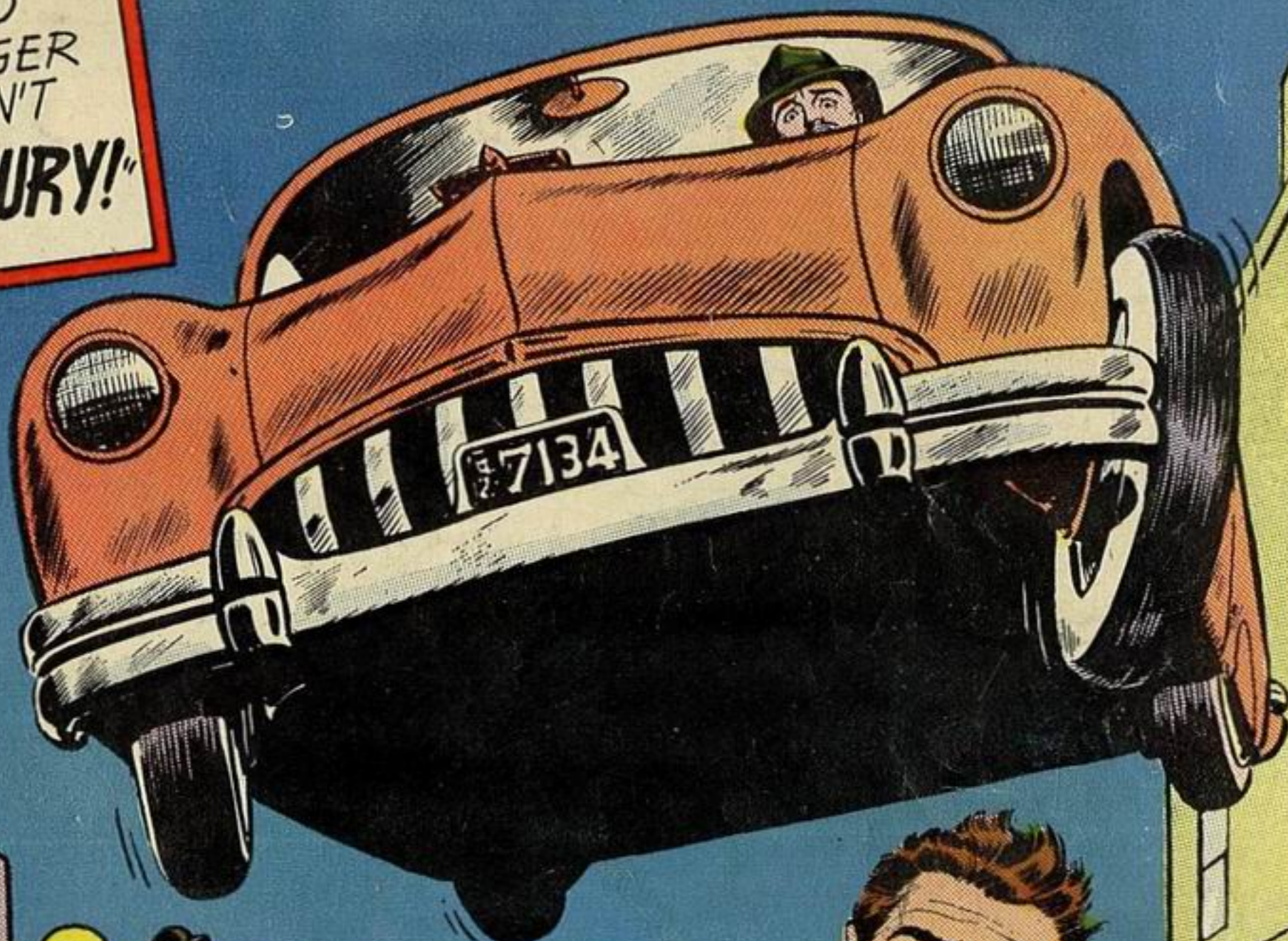
AUTHORITY

FORBIDDEN WORLDS

Here's A MYSTERY SO
STRANGE AS TO STAGGER
THE IMAGINATION! DON'T
MISS ...
"MR. MIGGS from MERCURY!"

BY THE
STRANGE POWERS
VESTED IN ME
... **BACK!**

WHAT...



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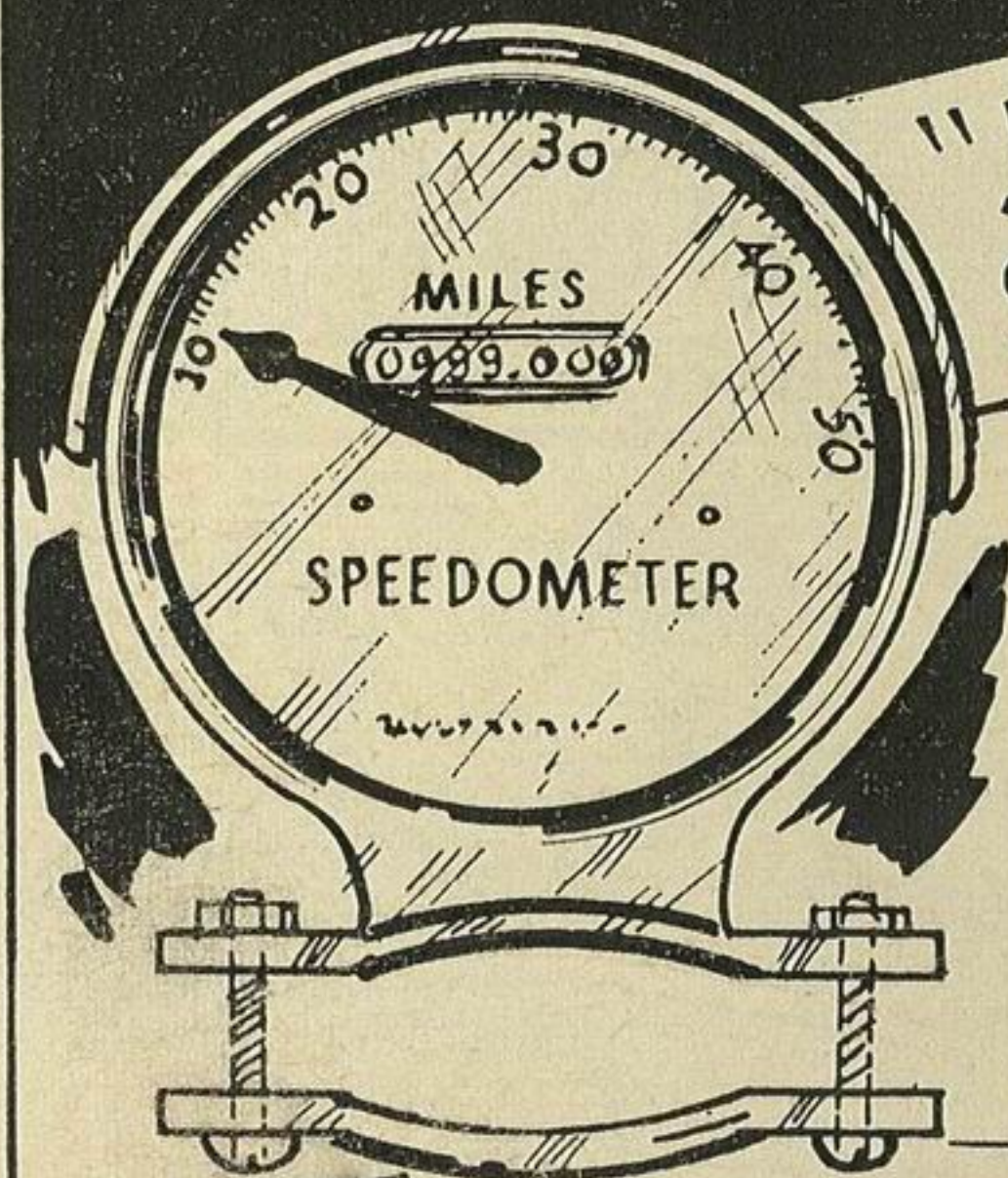


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SO YOU THINK YOU'VE SEEN EVERYTHING! COULD BE...MAYBE THE EARTH HOLDS NO SECRETS AS FAR AS YOU'RE CONCERNED! BUT YOUR HOME PLANET'S JUST A DOT IN THE INFINITY OF THE UNIVERSE, SO CAST YOUR EYES TOWARDS OUTER SPACE! SOMETHING'S COMING IN FOR A LANDING...SOMETHING SO STRANGE AS TO STAGGER THE IMAGINATION! IT'S...

Mr. MIGGS from MERCURY!



INTERESTED IN OUR HEAVENLY NEIGHBORS? LET'S LOOK IN ON MERCURY...A TYPICAL DAY AMONG ITS MEN...

MY WIFE SAYS I'D BETTER WALK THE BABY EVERY DAY, OR I'LL CATCH IT FROM HER!

THESE WOMEN, WITH THEIR TEMPER! MINE'S THE SAME WAY!

I BROUGHT HOME A NEW HAT THE OTHER DAY, AND I DECLARE... THE SCENE MY MISSUS RAISED!



SAY...IT LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE A BIT DIFFERENT UP THERE! PITY THE POOR MAN...HIS WORK IS NEVER DONE...

OH, MY STARS! IF DINNER'S LATE, I'LL HEAR FROM HER!



NOW, IF YOU'D LIKE A LOOK AT MERCURIAN WOMEN, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE! SEEMS LIKE THE 5 O'CLOCK QUITTING WHISTLE JUST BLEW...

AFTER A TOUGH DAY'S WORK, IT'LL BE GOOD, GETTING BACK TO THE LITTLE MAN AT HOME!



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OF COURSE, THOSE WERE JUST THE FACTORY-WORKERS YOU SAW! NOW, ON THE **EXECUTIVE LEVEL**...

THAT'S ALL...GIVE ME AN ORIGINAL AND TWO CARBONS! AND DON'T LET ME CATCH YOU GOSSIPING WITH THE OTHER STENOGRAPHERS, SEE?

YES'M, MISS METEORITE!



AT THE TOP OF THE HEAP WAS THE BOSS-LADY, **QUEEN SKIDDLEBUP!** SHE OWED HER JOB TO THE FACT THAT SHE WAS THE BIGGEST, TOUGHEST WOMAN ON ALL MERCURY...

THAT **MR. MIGGS** IS HERE TO SEE YOU, QUEEN! I DON'T GET IT...WHO EVER HEARD OF A **MAN** INVENTOR?

I ASSIGNED HIM THE JOB OF DEVELOPING AN INTERPLANETARY TELE-RECEPTOR! HE MUST HAVE SUCCEEDED, OR ELSE HE'D NEVER HAVE DARED SHOW UP! BRING HIM IN!



PUFF...PUFF...I'VE **GOT** IT, QUEEN SKIDDLEBUP! WITH IT, YOU CAN TUNE IN ANY PLANET IN THE UNIVERSE... JUST LIKE IT WAS THE NEXT ROOM! WAIT'LL YOU SEE IT **WORK!**

I DON'T **WANT** TO SEE IT WORK! DETAILS, DETAILS...WHY DO PEOPLE ALWAYS TROUBLE ME WITH **DETAILS?**



LISTEN, YOU MISERABLE LITTLE WORM, SO YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GET THINGS **STRAIGHT!** MERCURY'S GETTING OVERCROWDED, AND YOU KNOW WHAT WE NEED IN THE WAY OF AN AUXILIARY PLANET! SCOUT ONE OUT ON THAT NEW CONTRAPTION OF YOURS... AND THEN I'M SENDING YOU DOWN TO TAKE OVER **PERSONALLY!**

M-ME?



YES, MIGGS...**YOU!** YOU MAY BE AN INSIGNIFICANT RABBIT, BUT YOU **ARE** A FINE SCIENTIST, AND THAT'S WHAT'S NEEDED IN THIS PROJECT! WE'VE GOT TO MAKE ROOM FOR OUR SURPLUS MERCURIANS, SO YOU FIND A SATISFACTORY PLANET FOR US...AND THEN ELIMINATE THE LOCAL POPULATION!

B-BUT I DON'T **LIKE** ELIMINATING LOCAL POPULATIONS!



WHAT...YOU **DARE** CROSS ME, PIPSQUEAK? HAND ME THAT **TELEPHONE BOOK!**

GULP!



THERE! NOW, JUST SUPPOSE IT WAS YOUR NECK...WOULD YOU LIKE **THAT?**

N-NO, MA'AM...

R-RIP!



THEN DO AS I SAY, SEE? REMEMBER, I'M QUEEN HERE, BY THE LAWS OF MERCURY... UNTIL SOMEONE **STRONGER** COMES ALONG! **NOW GET BUSY!**

AND SO MR. MIGGS TRUNDLED HIS TELE-RECEPTOR HOME...AND GOT BUSY...

OH, HOW I **HATE** ALL WOMEN...BIG, DOMINATING BULLIES THAT OPPRESS HELPLESS MEN! IF...IF THERE WERE ONLY SOME WAY I COULD GET **EVEN** WITH THEM...



IT WAS COINCIDENCE THAT THE VERY FIRST PLANET MR. MIGGS TUNED IN ON WAS **EARTH**...AND AN EVEN GREATER COINCIDENCE THAT WHAT HE HAD ACCIDENTALLY TUNED IN ON WAS THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE MILITANT **WOMEN LEADERS OF AMERICA!**

HUH?

WOMEN MUST OCCUPY THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACES! DOWN WITH MEN!



WE'RE THE STRONGER SEX...IT'S OUR RIGHT TO RULE! AS FOR THE WEAKLING MALES, LET THEM OCCUPY THE MENIAL JOBS...WE SHALL BE THE LEADERS!



SO PLANET EARTH CAN SUSTAIN HUMAN LIFE...AND IT'S THE SAME WAY DOWN THERE AS IT IS **HERE!** ALL RIGHT, THEN...SINCE I'VE GOT TO DESTROY **SOME** POPULATION, I MIGHT AS WELL GET EVEN WITH WOMEN AS BEST I CAN BY MAKING IT **EARTH'S!**



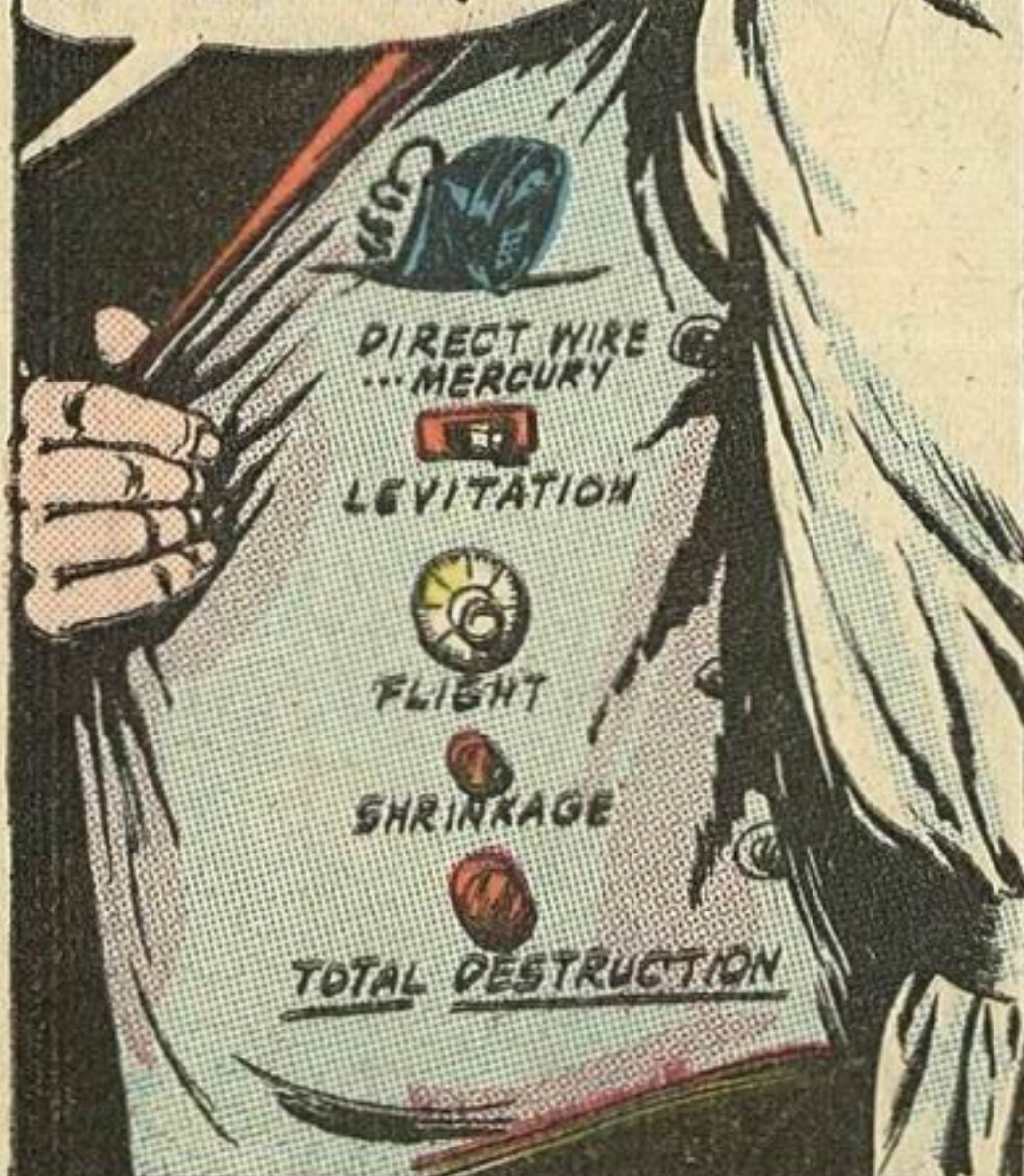
AND SO MR. MIGGS PREPARED TO LEAVE ON HIS FATEFUL ASSIGNMENT...



REMEMBER, NOW...IF EARTH'S POPULATION ISN'T LIQUIDATED WITHIN **EXACTLY** TWO WEEKS FROM NOW, I'LL COME DOWN THERE MYSELF AND SETTLE YOU **ALONG** WITH THEM! NOW OPEN THAT VEST, SO I CAN CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT!



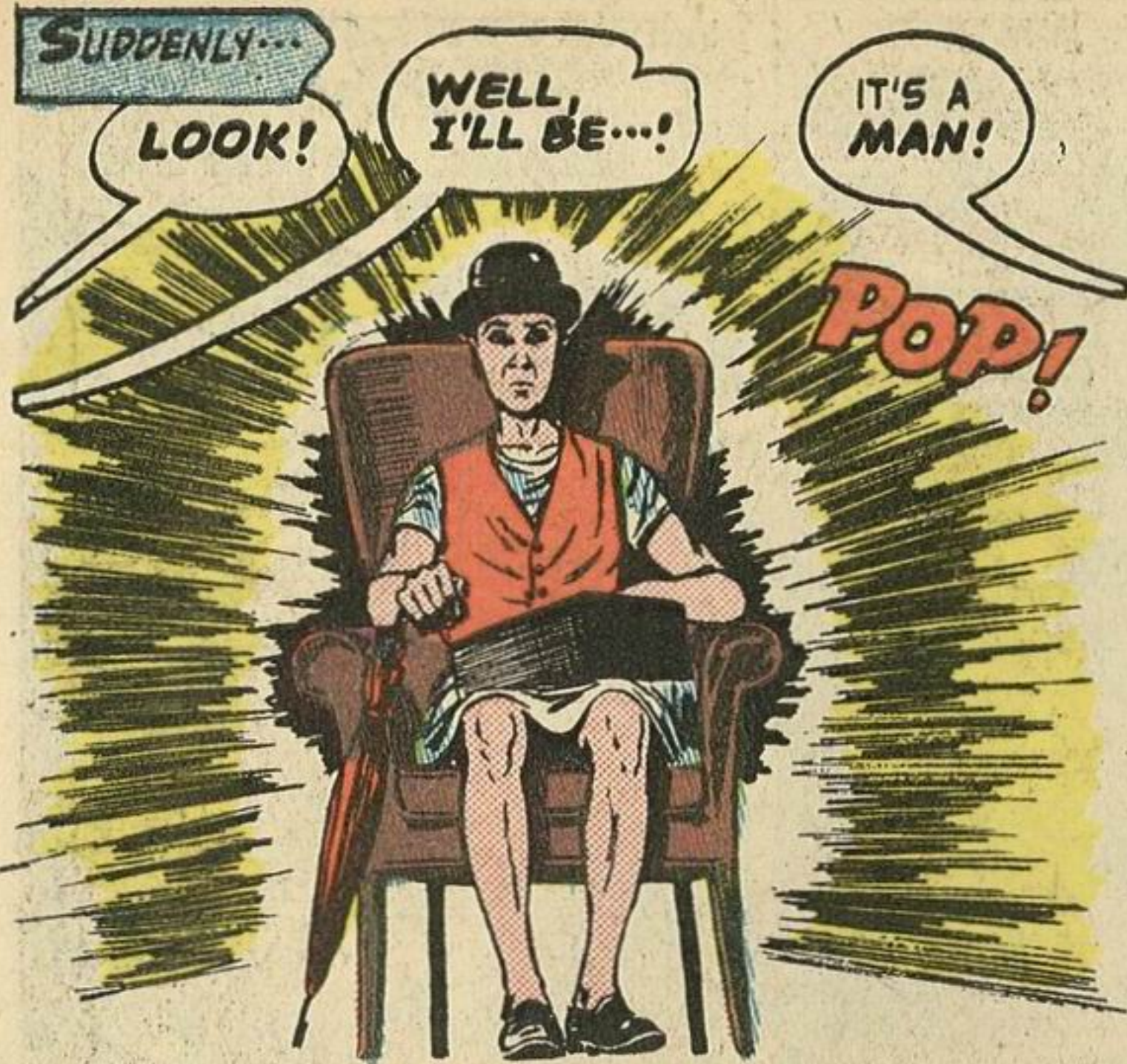
WHEN THE TIME COMES...IT'S THAT BIG BUTTON MARKED **TOTAL DESTRUCTION!** AND DON'T FORGET TO USE IT...OR ELSE! NOW **GET GOING!**



WELL...MR. MIGGS' POINT OF CONTACT WITH THE EARTH WAS THE CONVENTION WHICH THE TELE-RECEPTOR HAD TUNED IN...

...AND THERE IT IS...THE VACANT SEAT...SYMBOLIZING THE THRONE WE HOPE WILL BE OCCUPIED BY A **WOMAN** SOME DAY! CAN'T YOU JUST **PICTURE** HER?









(CONTINUED ON PAGE AFTER NEXT)

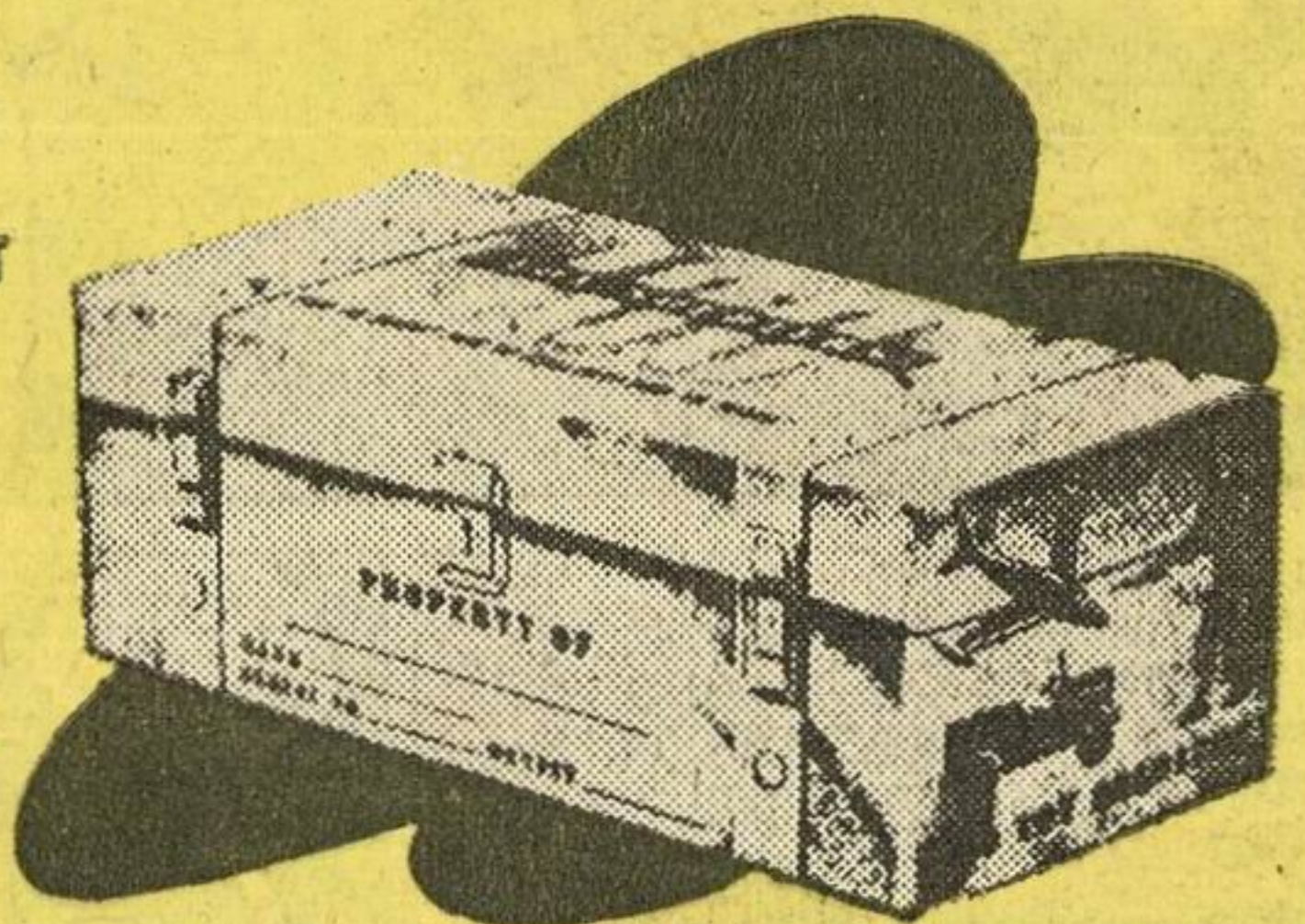
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POOR MR. MIGGS! IN A TRICE, HE WAS
HAULED BEFORE BETTY... WITHOUT EVEN
A CHANCE TO TALK...



...AND I SHOULDN'T HAVE
STOPPED HALF-NELSON
MCGURK HERE FROM GIVING
YOU WHAT YOU DESERVE!
YOU GO BACK TO YOUR
BOSS, OZZIE BARBUTI,
AND TELL
HIM...

BUT...
BUT...
**DON'T
INTERRUPT,
BUSTER!**

MEANWHILE... A NEARBY TENT...



OKAY! AND DON'T
FORGET TO TELL
OZZIE WHO DID
IT!

PLEASE, BETTY...
LET ME WORK 'IM
OVER A LITTLE!
JUST A LITTLE,
HUH?



NO, HALF-NELSON!
YOU KNOW HOW I
FEEL ABOUT...

MISS BARTON!
THE BIG TOP...
IT'S ON FIRE!



WELL, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING
FOR... THAT BLAZE WILL
SPREAD ALL OVER THE
LOT! GET OUT THE
HOSE WAGON!

**CAN'T! SOMEONE'S
CUT ALL THE HOSE
TO RIBBONS!**



BARBUTI! THERE'S
...NOTHING I CAN
DO AGAINST HIM...

DEAR, DEAR... WHY, PEOPLE
MIGHT GET **HURT** IF THIS
WERE TO SPREAD! LET'S
SEE, NOW...



CONSIDERING THE PRESENT
RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND WIND
VELOCITY... TO SAY NOTHING
OF THE MEAN PRECIPITATION
RATE... PERHAPS **THIS**
SHOULD DO IT!

DIRECT WIRE
--- MERCURY
LEVITATION
FLIGHT
SHRINKAGE
TOTAL DESTROY



AH...
I WAS
RIGHT!

SSSS-SSSS...



IT'S GOIN' OUT... AND THAT FELLA IN
THE FUNNY GETUP HAD SOMETHIN' TO
DO WITH IT! C'MON, BOYS --- **LET'S
GET 'IM!**



LATE THAT NIGHT...

TCH, TCH... I WAS GETTING TO LIKE THOSE CLOTHES I'D BEEN WEARING... TOO BAD BETTY THOUGHT THEM TOO CONSPICUOUS! BUT MAYBE THESE ARE BETTER, NOW THAT I'M A... AH... SECRET GUARD AROUND HERE!

THAT MUST BE HIM NOW!



WHAT... WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?

LET'S TAKE HIM UP TO THE TOP OF THE FERRIS WHEEL! THAT'S PRIVATE ENOUGH FOR WHAT WE GOTTA DO!



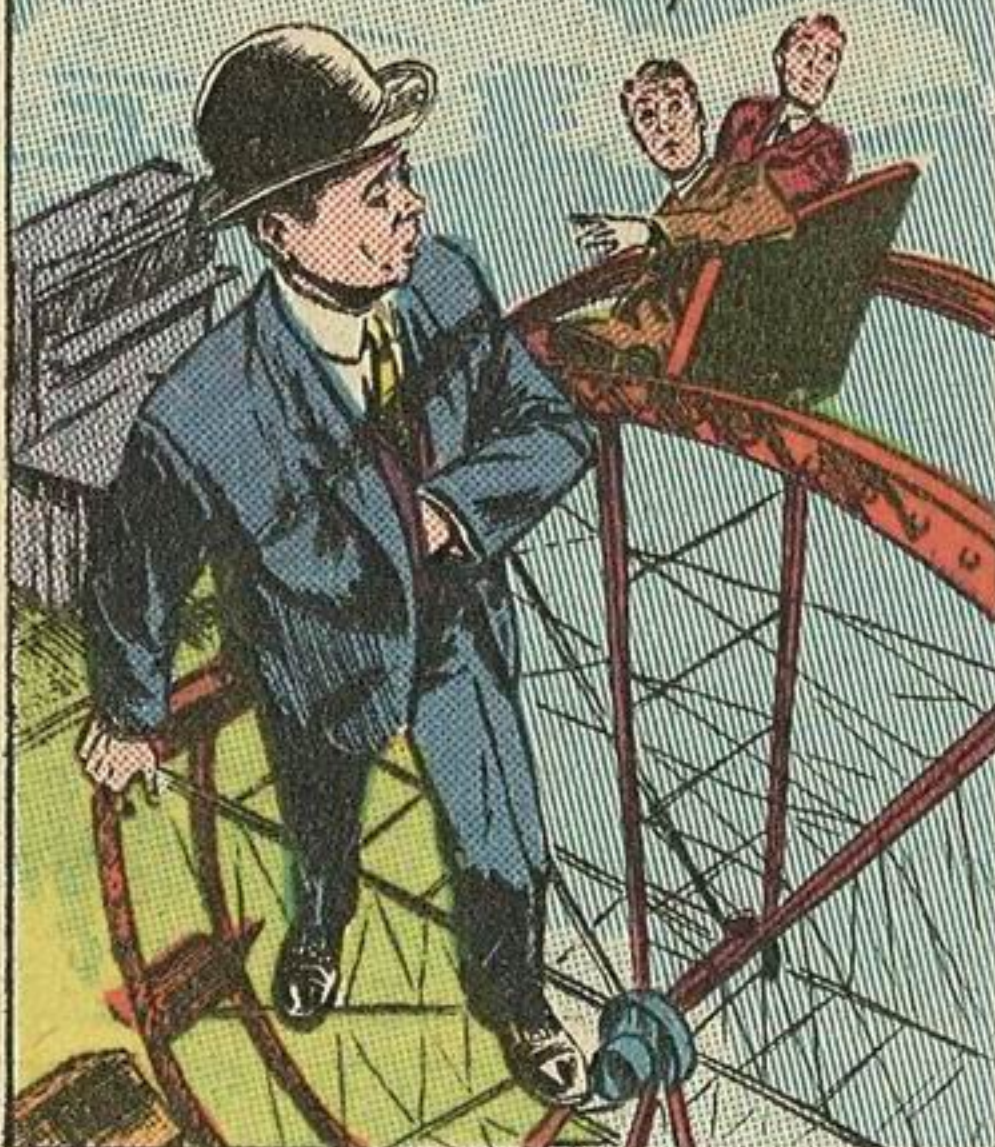
I'M NOT SURE I LIKE EITHER OF YOU GENTLEMEN! I DON'T THINK I'LL STAY!

ANYTIME YOU WANT TO LEAVE, IT'S OKAY WITH US! JUST STEP RIGHT OUT, BUDDY... HAW-HAW!



THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'LL DO! BUT BEFORE I LEAVE...

ULP!



...I'LL MAKE USE OF ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS TO SET THAT DEVICE IN MOTION! I'VE DECIDED I DETEST YOU!

H-HELP!

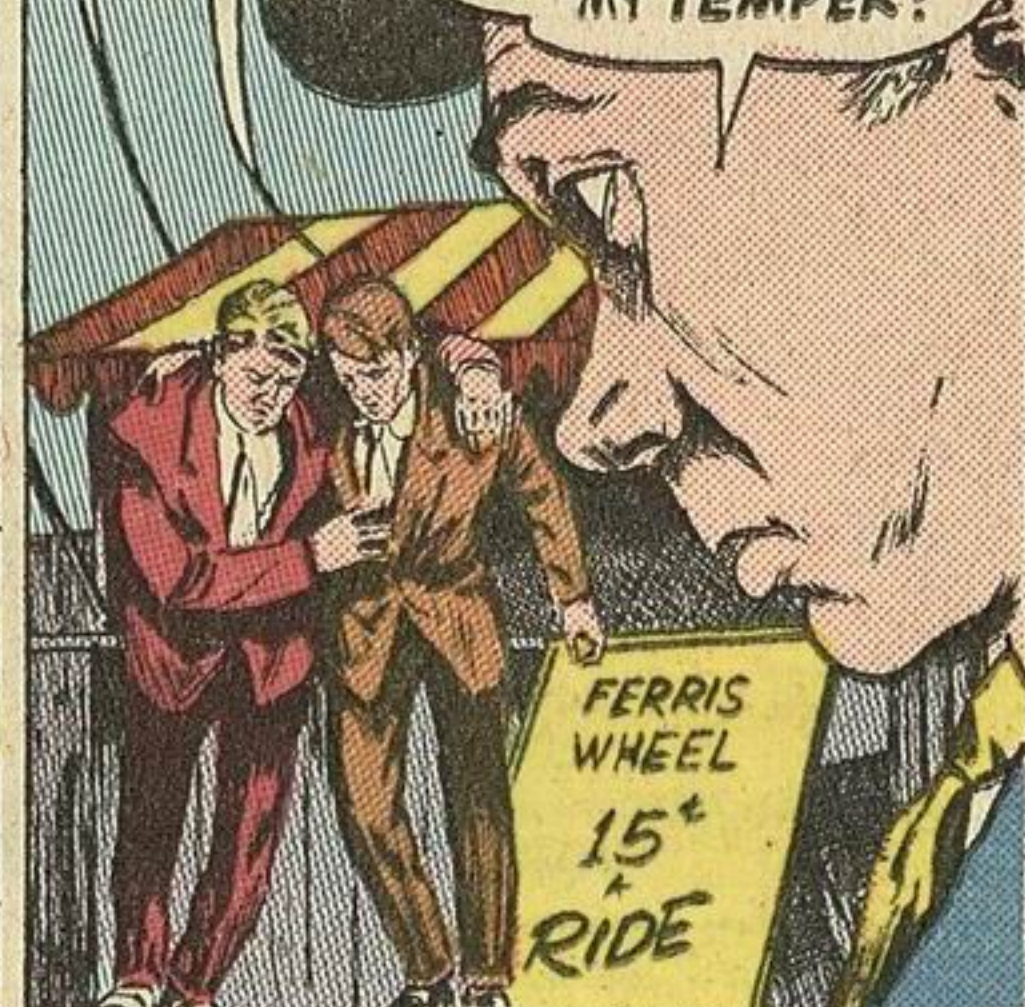
LET US OUTA HERE!



OH-HHHH...

MY... MY HEAD...

YOU MEN ARE DOUBTLESS IN THE EMPLOY OF MR. BARBUTI! RETURN TO HIM AND INFORM HIM THAT I DON'T LIKE HIM EITHER... AND IF HE DOESN'T KEEP AWAY, I MAY LOSE MY TEMPER!



AND WHEN BARBUTI HEARD THAT...

OH... A WISE GUY, HUH? I WANTED TO ARRANGE THINGS EASY AND REFINED-LIKE, BUT NOW IT'S TOTAL WAR! AND TOMORROW'S D-DAY!



NEXT MORNING... HIRELINGS AT WORK...





IT CAME AS AN UNWELCOME SURPRISE WHEN...

L-LOOK OUT! THE GORILLA ... IT'S LOOSE!

MY WORD ...IT'S COMING AT ME!

OHHH!



IT...IT BEHOOVES ME TO SUMMON ASSISTANCE!



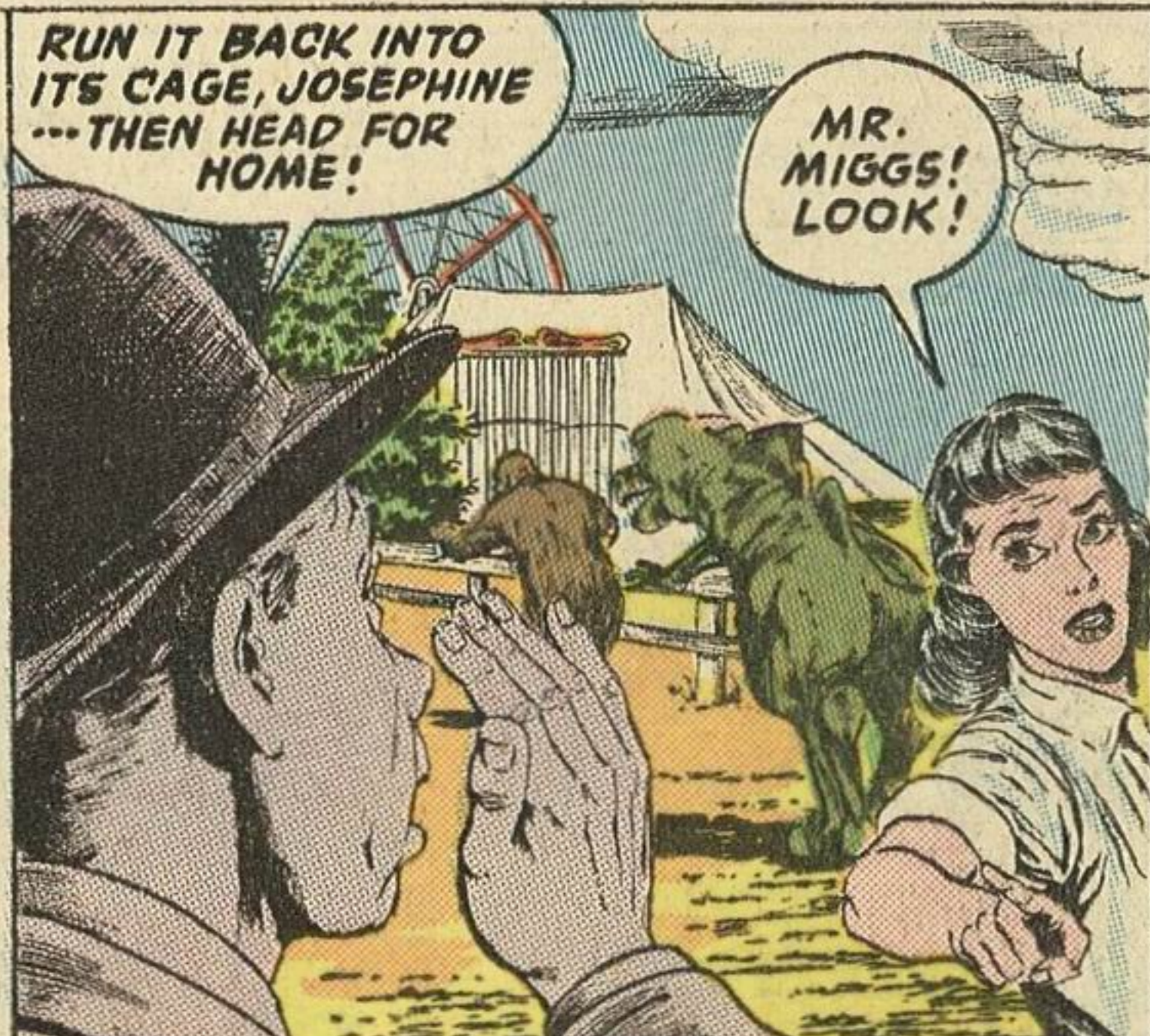
CALLING PLANET MERCURY! GET A FIX ON MY POSITION AND SEND DOWN JOSEPHINE! AND YOU'D BETTER MAKE IT QUICK!



WELL...THE SERVICE THAT DAY WAS EXCELLENT, SO...

GARR-RRRR!

GARR-RRR?



RUN IT BACK INTO ITS CAGE, JOSEPHINE ...THEN HEAD FOR HOME!

MR. MIGGS! LOOK!



TCH, TCH! I'D HAVE BEEN LOST IF I'D FORGOTTEN THIS VEST OF MINE! THAT THING'S ALMOST ON TOP OF ME!

SNORT!



FOR ELEPHANTS WHICH ARE ALMOST ON TOP OF YOU



WELL, I'LL BE ...! I WOULDN'TA BELIEVED IT IF I HADN'T SEEN IT!

HALF-NELSON MCGUR

MEANWHILE, IT LOOKS AS IF BETTY'S IN PLENTY OF TROUBLE, TOO!



EEEE-EEE! MR. MIGGS... HELP ME!

WAIT... DON'T MOVE!... GOODNESS, WHERE IS THAT BUTTON? AH... HERE IT IS!

ARR-RR!

DON'T BOTHER COVERING YOUR EYES... YOU CAN LOOK NOW!



YOU... YOU'RE A MIRACLE MAN!

ARR-RR?

BUT WHAT'S THE USE? BARBUTI WILL JUST TRY SOMETHING ELSE, AND KEEP ON TRYING UNTIL MY CARNIVAL'S WRECKED! OH, I'M SO M-MISERABLE!



NOW I'M ANGRY! I MAY BE SCARED OF WOMEN, BUT NOT OF MEN! GANGWAY!

AT A HOTEL IN THE NEARBY TOWN...



W-WHAT ARE YOU GUYS SCARED OF? MOW HIM D-DOWN!

HE'S NOTHIN'... IT'S JUST THAT STUFF HE CARRIES AROUND IN THAT VEST THAT'S GOT US NERVOUS!

IN THAT CASE... I'LL REMOVE IT!



WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITIN' FOR?

WHAT A PARTY THIS IS GONNA BE!



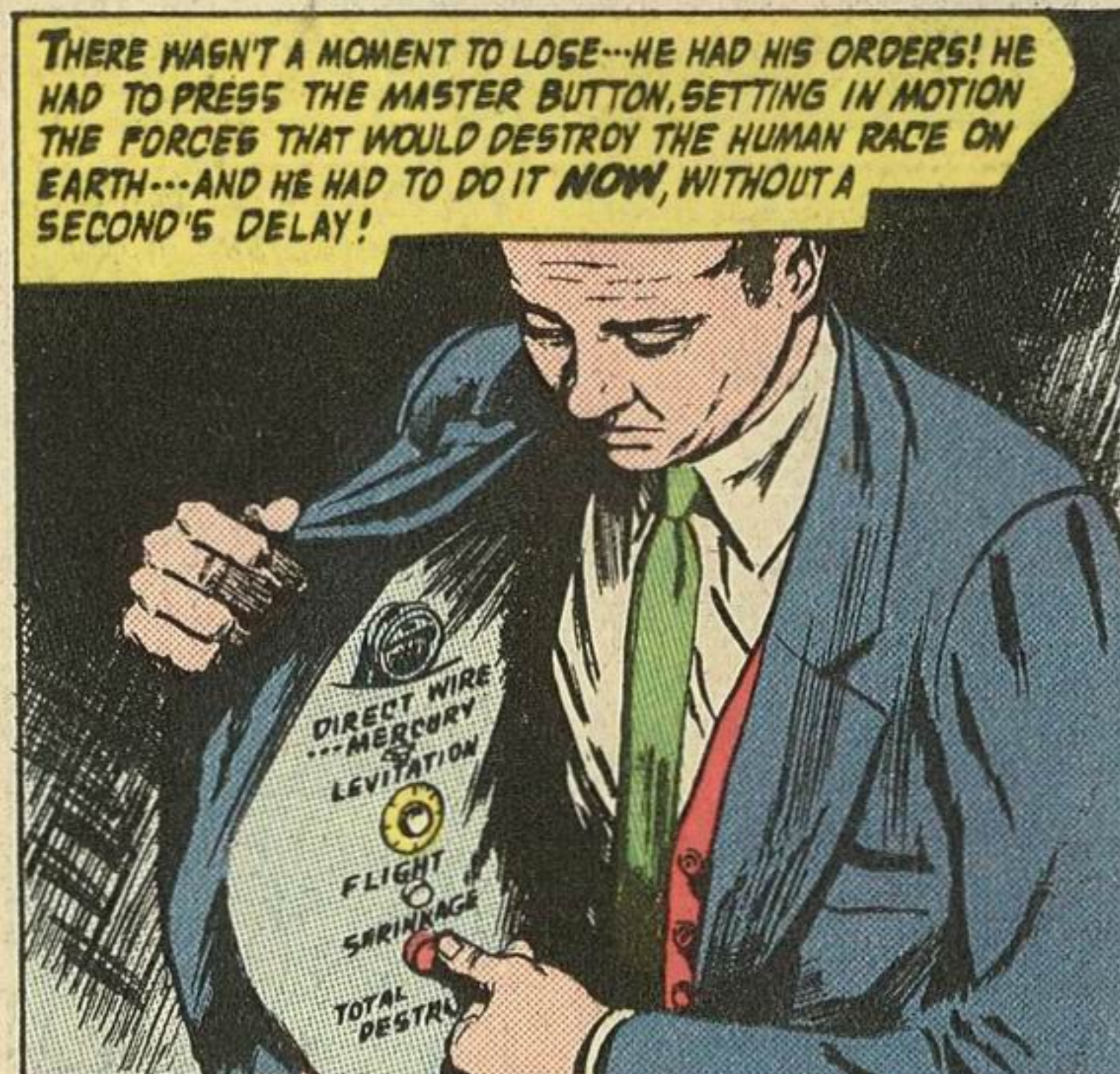
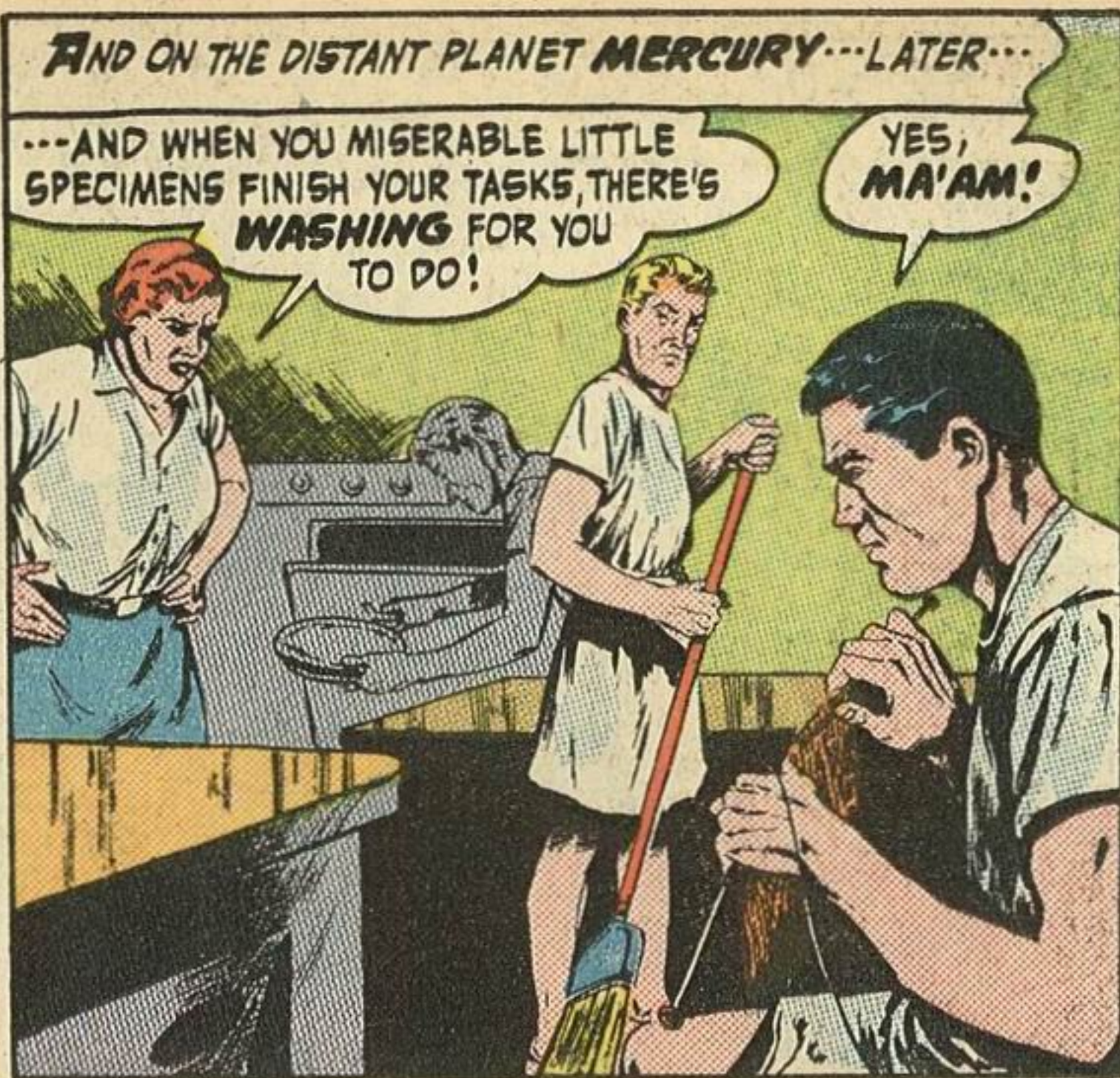
POW!

BAM!



I... I'LL SHOW YOU YET... YOU AND THAT DAME YOU'RE WORKIN' FOR! SHE'LL FIND THERE'S NO WOMAN TOUGH ENOUGH TO STAND IN MY WAY!

THERE ARE *SOME* WOMEN WHO MIGHT DO A GOOD JOB OF IT! AND JUST SO'S YOU WON'T ANNOY MISS BARTON ANYMORE, I'M SENDING YOU WHERE THOSE WOMEN ARE!



IT'S ... **NO USE!** IF I DON'T DO THE JOB, **QUEEN SKIDDLEBUP** WILL! I ... **WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE SAYING, HALF-NELSON?**

I WAS SAYIN' ... I MIGHT STAND A CHANCE OF LANDIN' A GUY IF ONLY THERE WAS SOMEPLACE WHERE **BIG, STRONG WOMEN** WERE THE STYLE! THEY JUST DON'T **COME** ANY BIGGER AN' STRONGER THAN **ME!**

WAIT ... I THINK I'M GETTING AN **IDEA!** SUPPOSING THERE **WERE** SUCH A PLACE? WOULD YOU LIKE IT IF I SENT YOU THERE ... EVEN IF IT WERE BILLIONS OF MILES AWAY?

WOULD I!

OH! WHERE ... WHERE HAS SHE GONE TO?

JUST CALL IT THE LAND OF HEART'S DESIRE ... AS FAR AS **SHE'S** CONCERNED!

WELL ... HALF-NELSON ARRIVED ON MERCURY ... AND WAS STRAIGHTWAY BROUGHT BEFORE QUEEN SKIDDLEBUP, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE PLANET ...

OH ... **ANOTHER** ONE OF YOU UPSTART EARTHLINGS, EH? BY NOW, ALL YOUR KIND SHOULD BE **DESTROYED!** AND I'VE JUST GOT A NOTION TO SHOW YOU HOW IT'S **DONE ... PERSONALLY!**

OH, YEAH?

NOT IF I SHOW YOU FIRST!

CRASH!

AND SO ... ALSO IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF MERCURY ... A NEW SOVEREIGN WAS CROWNED ... QUEEN HALF-NELSON MCGURK THE FIRST! THUS THE EARTH WAS PRESERVED ... WHICH IS WHAT MR. MIGGS HAD SENT HER UP FOR ...

THIS IS THE LIFE!

... AND YOU CAN BE SURE THAT SHE CHANGED THINGS UP THERE, BECAUSE SHE LIKED MEN!

AND DOWN BELOW, YOU MIGHT SAY THAT MR. MIGGS WAS A MALE SOVEREIGN OF SORTS! AFTER ALL ... ISN'T EVERY MAN IN LOVE A KING?

THE END!

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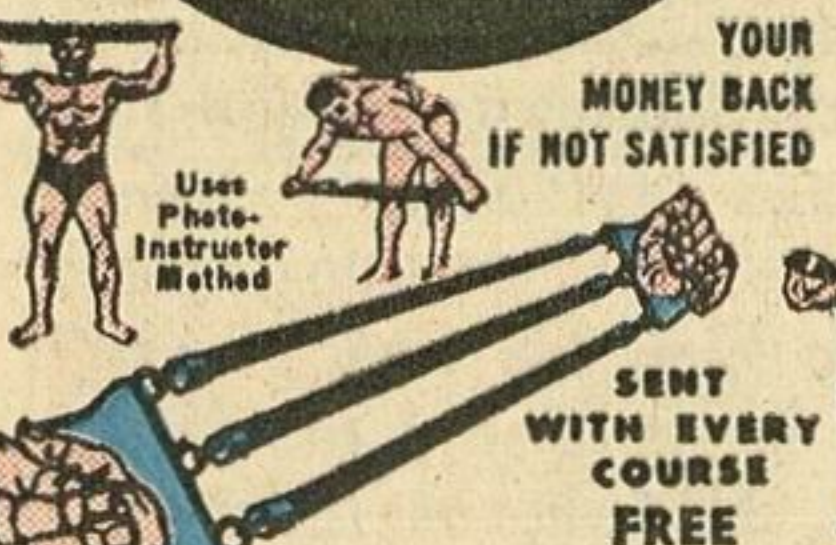
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THERE'S NO ESCAPE!

STRANGE THINGS happen in Wales...the most legend-ridden country in all Europe. We're going to tell you one of these things as it was told to us...you can believe it or not, according to your inclination. The story concerns old Lloyd Glendenning and Felicia, his young and pretty ward. There was no bond of affection between the two. The miserly old man had resented having her left in his care as a child due to the death of a relative, and he had never hesitated to reveal his dislike. He begrudged her every cent that her upbringing cost him, and increasing age only added to the fires of his hatred. But there was nothing she could do about it, nowhere she could go. She could only remain with him, miserable under his bitter taunts.

Of late, however, she had been changing...growing pale and haggard, the light of fear in her eyes. She became ill, and old Glendenning was forced to summon a doctor, who reported that he could find nothing physically wrong...that some secret terror was affecting her. Well, her guardian wasn't standing for that. He'd know the reason, if it was the last thing he did. And so, finally, he forced it from the girl. "It...it's like a dream," she whispered brokenly. "Every night, I find myself wandering on the moors...and then, suddenly, I'm a prisoner in a huge, bleak room! All around me, there's fear! I know clearly I'm in deadly danger, but I don't know from what! Then I become aware of huge, dark shadows detaching themselves from the corner of the room, moving in on me, surrounding me! And I know that if I don't escape them, I'm doomed...but where can I

flee? Then, at the last minute, as they reach for me, I see a narrow door off to one side...and it's open! I lunge towards it...I just make it...I'm free at last! And all this...it happens every night!"

"Is that all?" jeered the old man. "Just stupid dreams...nightmares...and you let them drive you into a panic!"

"Are they...dreams?" whispered Felicia. "All I know is that each morning, when I awaken, there's... fresh mud on my shoes!" Then she fled as Glendenning let loose a blistering tirade. The nerve of the minx... trying to take him in with a fool's tale like that! Angrily, he stamped his way up to bed.

He should be asleep...what was he doing tramping the moors? And look at his shoes...they're mud-coated! There was no moon to light the way. Looking up at the dark sky, he felt it closing in on him. Why, it wasn't a sky...it was a ceiling! He...he was inside a room, huge and bleak! And why should he be so afraid, as if some mortal danger loomed? He gasped as huge, dark shadows seemed to detach themselves noiselessly from the corners of the room, moving in on him, surrounding him! He had to escape them, and he suddenly recalled Felicia's words. "Then, at the last minute, as they reach for me, I see a narrow door off to one side...and it's open!" Glendenning's eyes swept the room frenziedly. Ah...there it was...a doorway off to one side, as she had said. He lunged desperately towards it, only to come to a horrified stop. For the door was closed, heavily bolted, impassable.

There's no escape.

THROUGH THE AGES, MAN HAS FOUGHT AGAINST THE INEVITABLE ONRUSH OF OLD AGE! PONCE DE LEON SOUGHT THE ANSWER IN HIS QUEST FOR THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH...A QUEST WHICH STILL GOES ON IN MODERN LABORATORIES AROUND THE WORLD! SOMEDAY, PERHAPS, SCIENCE MAY UNLOCK THE PRICELESS SECRET...AS IT DID FOR...

The MAN from ANCIENT GREECE!

AT LAST!
I HAVE FOUND
IT...THE
SECRET!



DR. HAL FARROW WAS ON NIGHT DUTY WHEN THE PATIENT WAS WHEELED IN, UNCONSCIOUS...

AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT
--- HE'S IN ROUGH SHAPE!

HAVE SURGERY
STAND BY! I'LL
EXAMINE HIM
IMMEDIATELY!



VOLO
MORIOR!
VOLO
MORIOR!

STRANGE, HE'S MUMBLING
WORDS IN OLD LATIN...
AND IT MEANS, "I WANT
TO DIE!"





AN IMMEDIATE OPERATION WAS NECESSARY...

I'VE NEVER SEEN A CONSTITUTION LIKE **THIS** IN 30 YEARS OF PRACTICE! IT'S **PERFECT!**

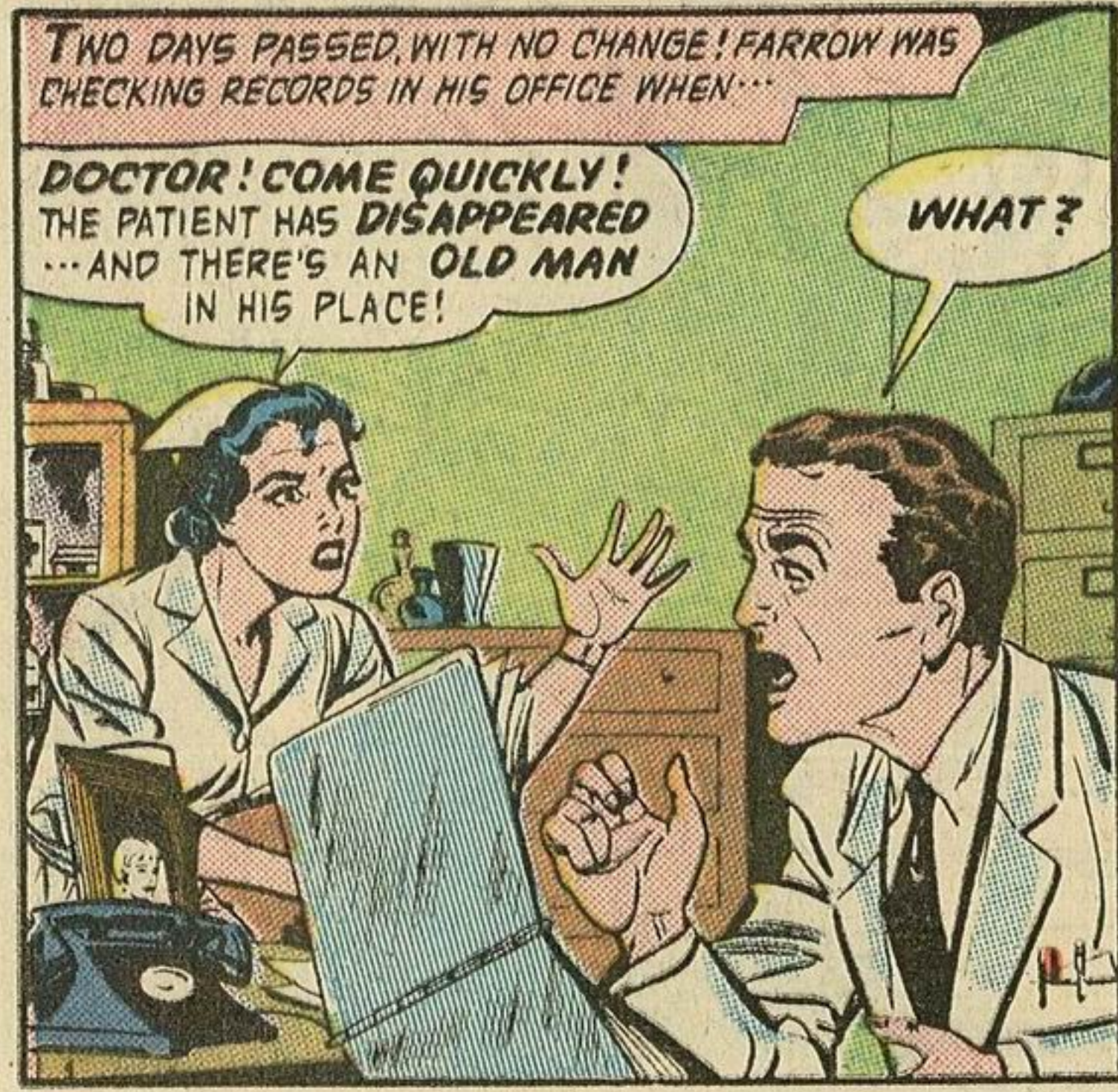
UNBELIEVABLY SO!
HE'S ALMOST A **FREAK!**



THE SURGERY PROVED SUCCESSFUL, AND NEXT MORNING...

HE SPENT THE NIGHT COMFORTABLY... EXCEPT THAT HE KEPT MUMBLING **FUNNY WORDS!**

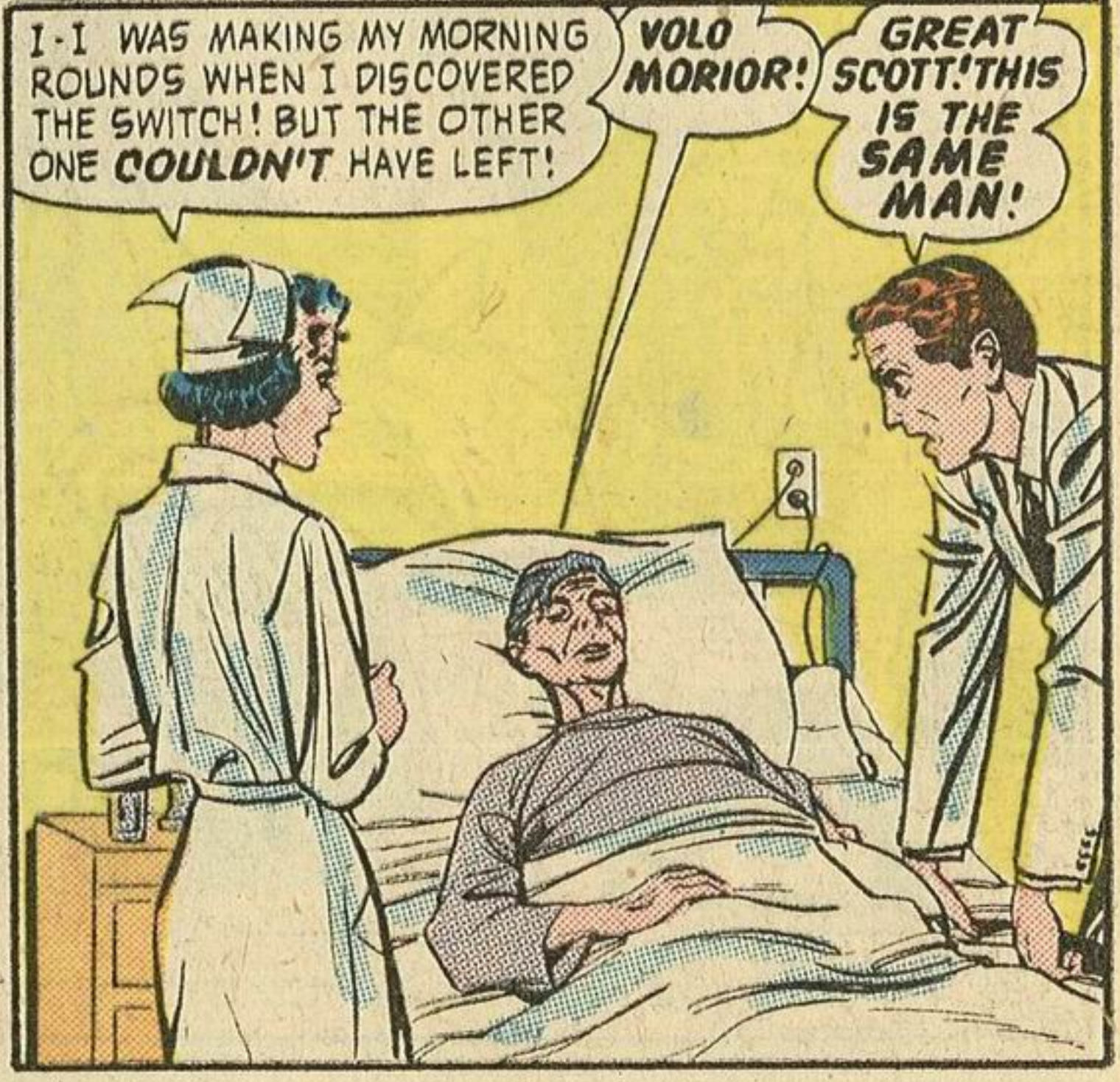
VERY FUNNY!
NOBODY **SPEAKS** LATIN NOWADAYS! LET ME KNOW IF THERE'S ANY CHANGE IN HIS CONDITION!



TWO DAYS PASSED, WITH NO CHANGE! FARROW WAS CHECKING RECORDS IN HIS OFFICE WHEN...

DOCTOR! COME QUICKLY!
THE PATIENT HAS **DISAPPEARED**... AND THERE'S AN **OLD MAN** IN HIS PLACE!

WHAT?



I-I WAS MAKING MY MORNING ROUNDS WHEN I DISCOVERED THE SWITCH! BUT THE OTHER ONE **COULDN'T** HAVE LEFT!

VOLO MORIOR!

GREAT SCOTT! THIS IS THE SAME MAN!



ARE YOU **MAD**, DOCTOR? THE OTHER WAS **YOUNG, HANDSOME**...

I **KNOW!** BUT THEY'RE THE **SAME!** I-I'M NOT LEAVING THIS ROOM TILL HE **REVIVES!**



SITTING AT THE BEDSIDE, FARROW COULD ALMOST **SEE** THE FANTASTIC AGING PROCESS! WEARY HOURS PASSED, UNTIL...

WH-WHERE AM I? WHO ARE YOU?

YOU'RE IN A HOSPITAL, SIR... WE'VE PULLED YOU THROUGH! THE MAIN QUESTION IS, **WHO ARE YOU?**



THE PATIENT WAS SILENT, RELUCTANT TO SPEAK...

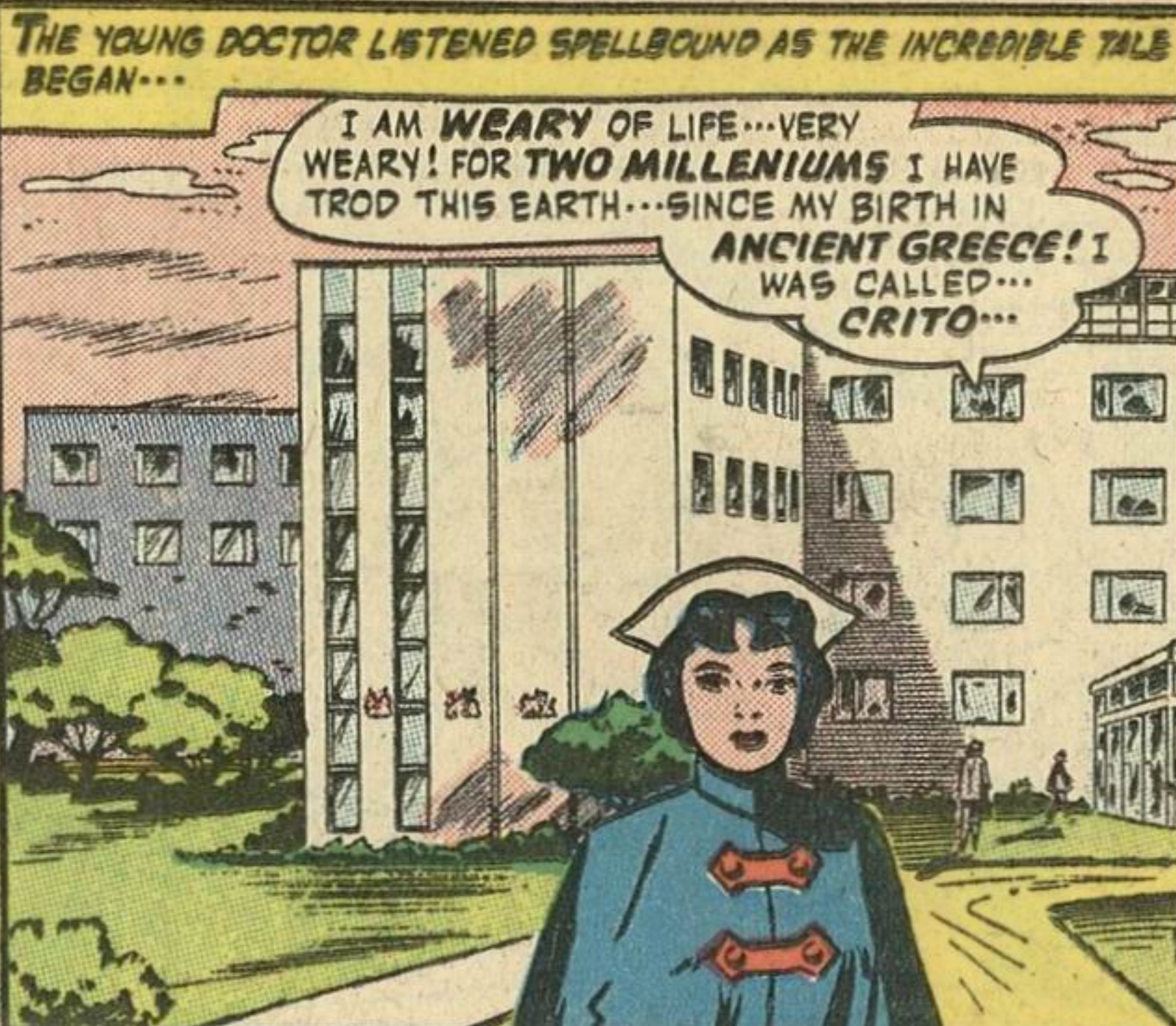
I...DON'T KNOW...MY **EXACT AGE!** YOU...WOULDN'T BELIEVE...MY STORY...

LISTEN, I HEARD YOU MUMBLING **LATIN**...AND YOU AGED **50 YEARS** BEFORE MY EYES! WHAT'S THE **MEANING** OF ALL THIS? HOW OLD ARE YOU?



I'D BELIEVE **ANYTHING** NOW!
PLEASE, YOU'VE GOT TO **EXPLAIN**
...I'VE NEVER **HEARD** OF
SUCH A CASE!

YOU WILL THINK
ME MAD... BUT
NO MATTER! I
HAVE BEEN **WANT-**
ING TO TELL MY
SECRET... FOR MORE
THAN **2,000**
YEARS!



THE **YOUNG DOCTOR** LISTENED **SPELLBOUND** AS THE **INCREDIBLE TALE**
BEGAN...

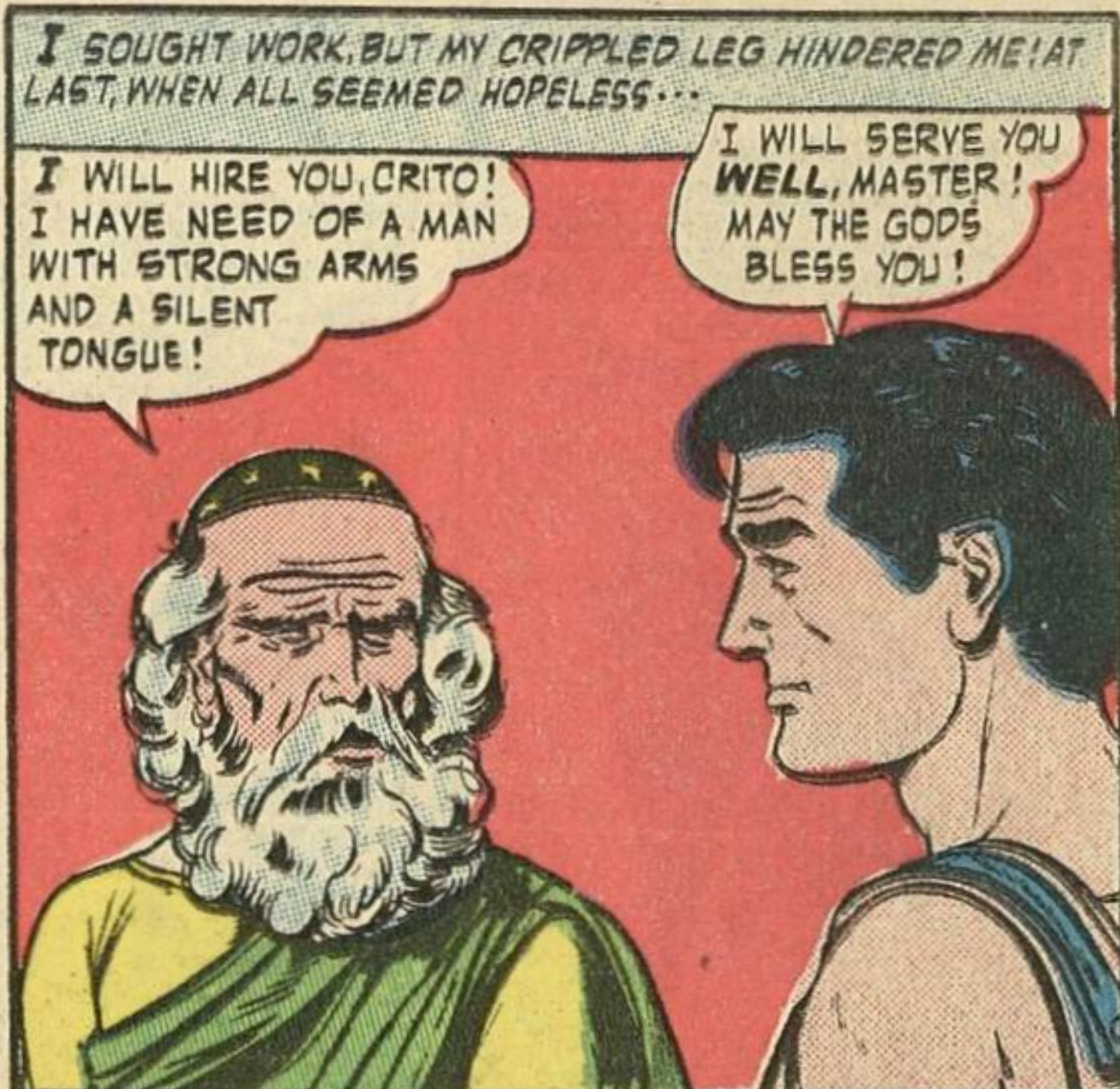
I AM **WEARY** OF LIFE...VERY
WEARY! FOR **TWO MILLENIUMS** I HAVE
TROD THIS EARTH...SINCE MY BIRTH IN
ANCIENT GREECE! I
WAS CALLED...
CRITO...



IT WAS IN THE GREAT BATTLE WHEN SPARTA DEFEATED
ATHENS THAT I WAS WOUNDED...

A NASTY WOUND, FRIEND!
NO MORE SOLDIERING
FOR YOU!

BUT...WHAT WILL
I DO? IT IS MY
PROFESSION!



I SOUGHT WORK, BUT MY CRIPPLED LEG HINDERED ME! AT
LAST, WHEN ALL SEEMED HOPELESS...

I WILL HIRE YOU, CRITO!
I HAVE NEED OF A MAN
WITH STRONG ARMS
AND A SILENT
TONGUE!

I WILL SERVE YOU
WELL, MASTER!
MAY THE GODS
BLESS YOU!



HIS NAME WAS **HAEMON**...AND I
LEARNED SOON THAT HE WAS AN
ALCHEMIST...A PRACTICER OF
STRANGE ARTS...

MORE WOOD,
CRITO... **CUT**
MORE WOOD!

YES,
MASTER!



AFTER TWO YEARS OF DEVOTED SERVICE,
HE TOOK ME INTO HIS CONFIDENCE...

I SEEK THE...
ELIXIR OF
YOUTH! THINK
WHAT ITS DISCOVERY
WOULD MEAN!
ETERNAL
LIFE, CRITO!

THE POOR
MAN'S WITS ARE
ADDLED... BUT
HE PAYS ME
WELL!



YEARS OF ENDLESS EXPERIMENT
PASSED! I TOOK NO INTEREST IN THE
WORK... NOR THOUGHT SUCCESS POSSIBLE...

IT WILL WORK
THIS TIME...
I **KNOW IT!**

BUT HOW MANY
TIMES HAVE YOU
SAID THAT **BEFORE,**
MASTER?

THE DOG SWALLOWED A FEW DROPS OF HAEMON'S POTION, AND THEN... AMAZINGLY...

IT... IT'S WORKING!
LOOK, CRITO...
LOOK!

BY THE BEARD OF
JOVE... THE DOG
GROWS SMALLER!



A HAPPY YOUNG PUPPY BARKED AT US, WAGGING ITS TAIL! HAEMON SHOUTED WITH JOY, WHEN SUDDENLY...

OHNN!
M-MY
HEART...

MASTER!



THE EXCITEMENT WAS TOO MUCH FOR THE OLD MAN! IT WAS A CRUEL FATE WHICH DEPRIVED HIM OF THE FRUITS OF HIS DISCOVERY...

HE... HE'S GONE! POOR OLD
HAEMON... YOU WILL NEVER
KNOW THE WORLD'S
GRATITUDE...



I LOOKED ABOUT ME... TO FIND THE CAVE A SHAMBLES! HAEMON HAD KNOCKED OVER THE TABLE IN HIS FALL, BUT WONDROUSLY...

THE BEAKER CONTAINING THE
ELIXIR... IT IS UNHARMED!

HMM, PERHAPS
IF I...



MY HAIR HAD GROWN GREY IN HAEMON'S SERVICE... AND I WONDERED, WOULD THE ELIXIR HELP ME? WHAT DID I HAVE TO LOSE BY TRYING?

IT... BURNS!
MY HEAD...
SPINS...
OHNNNN...



I FELL AWAY IN A DEAD FAINT! HOW LONG I LAY THERE I KNOW NOT, BUT WHEN I REVIVED...

I-I FEEL SO
STRANGE! GREAT
JOVE... I-I FEEL
YOUNGER!



THE WRINKLES ON MY HANDS HAD VANISHED... ASTONISHINGLY. MY LEG WAS HEALED! BUT I KNEW NOTHING OF HAEMON'S ARTS... I COULD NEVER MAKE ANOTHER DROP OF THE LIQUID...

NO ONE KNOWS OF THIS SECRET CAVE... AND NO ONE SHALL FIND THE TREASURE BEHIND THIS STONE WHICH BLOCKS THE ENTRANCE! AS LONG AS THAT BOTTLE LASTS... I SHALL LIVE!



THE OLD MAN ABRUPTLY STOPPED HIS TALE...

YES, YES! GO ON! WHAT HAPPENED?

I...AM WEARY! LET ME SLEEP... I WILL SPEAK MORE TOMORROW!



THAT NIGHT DR. FARROW COULDN'T HELP TELLING HIS FIANCEE THE WHOLE STORY...

YOU DON'T REALLY BELIEVE ANY OF IT, DO YOU?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE, ALICE! I'M TELLING YOU HE SHOWS NO SIGNS OF INSANITY!



NEXT DAY, FARROW WAITED BREATHLESSLY FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE STORY...

I WENT THEN TO SEEK MY FORTUNE! WITH MY LEG HEALED, I TOOK UP MY OLD PROFESSION AS A SOLDIER...



WHENEVER AGE OVERTOOK ME, I RETURNED TO THE CAVE AND THE POTION FOR RENEWED YOUTH! MANY WERE MY ADVENTURES... I SAILED WITH THE ROMANS ON THE EXPEDITION WHICH BROKE THE POWER OF CARTHAGE FOR ALL TIME...

ROME SHALL CONQUER THE WORLD... AND HOLD IT FOREVER!

FOREVER? NO DOUBT I SHALL OUTLIVE THE EMPIRE!



HOW WELL I STILL REMEMBER THE ASSASSINATION OF JULIUS CAESAR, AND THE ORATION WHICH TURNED THE PEOPLE AGAINST BRUTUS...

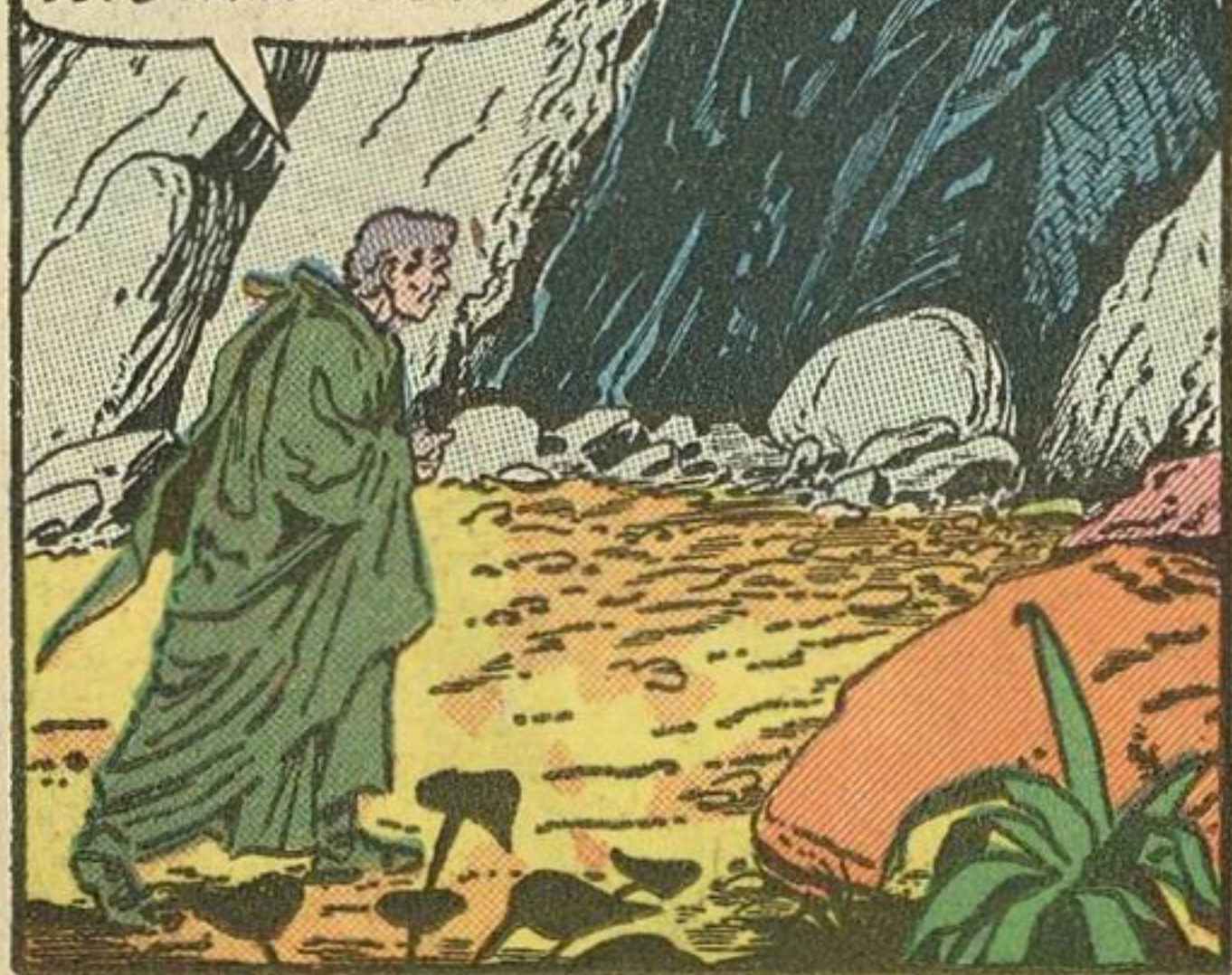
FRIENDS, ROMANS, COUNTRYMEN... LEND ME YOUR EARS...

SILENCE! THE NOBLE MARC ANTONY SPEAKS!



AS TIME PASSED, THE ONRUSH OF OLD AGE BEGAN TO COME WITH INCREASING SWIFTNESS! ONCE I BARELY MANAGED TO REACH MY CAVE IN TIME...

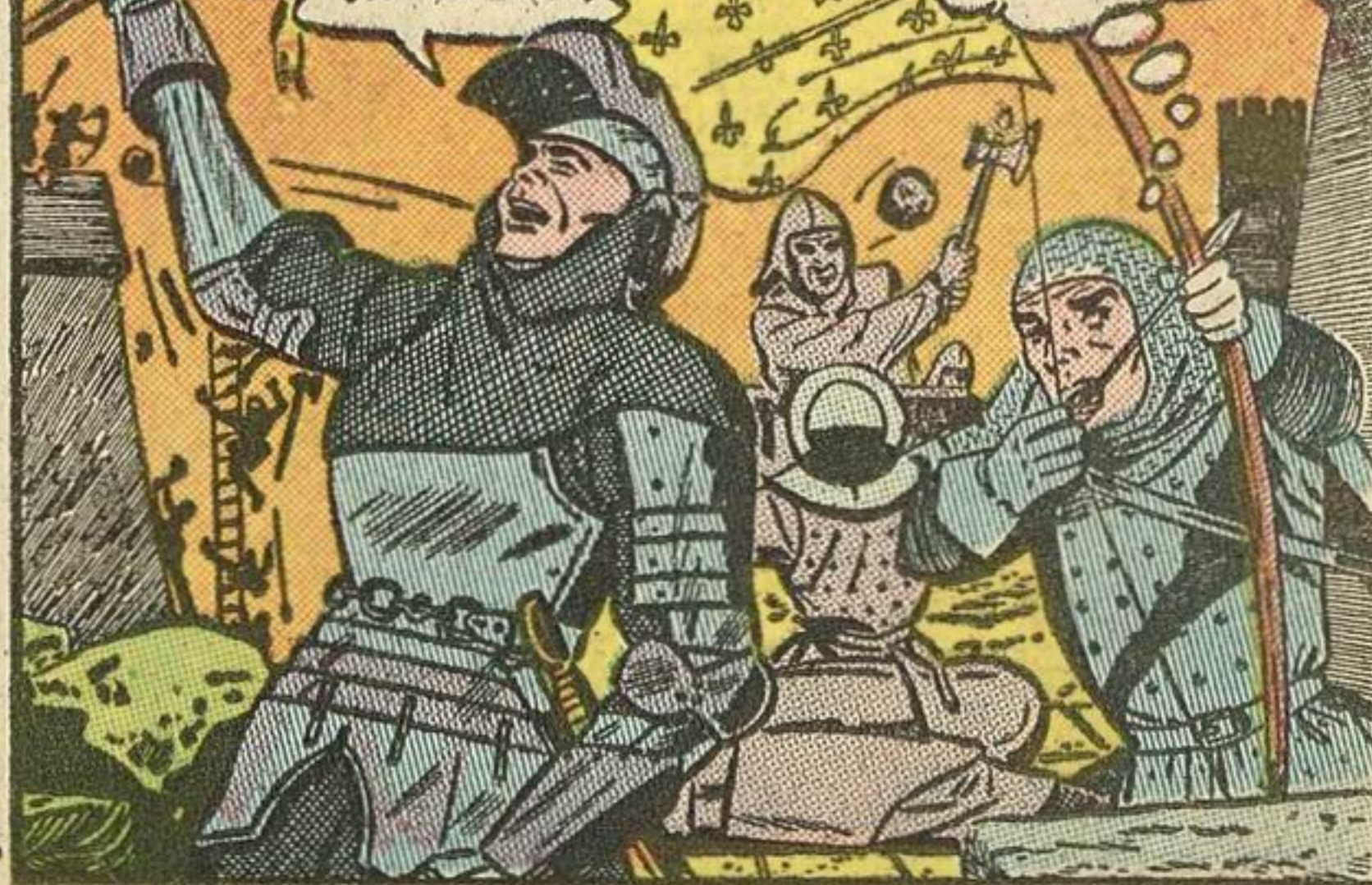
THE STONE WILL BE HEAVY FOR MY OLD MUSCLES... BUT I SHALL MOVE IT!



FORTUNATELY, THE POTION GREW MORE POWERFUL WITH AGE... SO THAT SMALLER DRAUGHTS RESTORED MY YOUTH! MY LIFE OF ADVENTURE CONTINUED... I FOUGHT WITH THE CRUSADERS AGAINST THE SARACENS...

FREE THE HOLY LAND FROM THE INFIDELS!

WEAPONS CHANGE... BUT WARS GO ON!



I KNEW THE GREAT FIGURES OF THE RENAISSANCE! MICHAELANGELO, THE IMMORTAL SCULPTOR, USED ME AS A MODEL...



YOU HAVE THE FINEST TORSO I HAVE EVER SEEN! IT IS THAT OF A GREEK GOD... PERFECT FOR MY STATUE OF DAVID!

CURIOUSLY, THE POTION GAVE ME INCREASING VIGOR... DISEASE NEVER TOUCHED ME! DURING THE MIDDLE AGES, WHEN THE BLACK PLAGUE TERRIFIED ALL OF EUROPE... I WAS IMMUNE!



WHY ARE YOU NAILING UP THE DOOR, SOLDIERS?

THERE IS PLAGUE WITHIN! WE HAVE OUR ORDERS!

BUT THERE WERE SPECIAL DANGERS FOR ME! DURING THE CENTURIES WHEN SUPERSTITION RULED MEN'S MINDS, I ALMOST PERISHED AT THE STAKE...



THREE MORE WITCHES WERE FOUND LAST WEEK! WHO KNOWS HOW MANY MORE THERE ARE?

FEAR NOT, FRIEND... SO LONG AS NONE OF US IS IN LEAGUE WITH THE EVIL ONE!

SITTING IN THAT ALEHOUSE, AN ONSLAUGHT OF AGE CAME ON WITH STARTLING ABRUPTNESS! I HAD NO TIME TO FLEE...



AIEEE! LOOK... HIS FACE!

HE... HE GROWS OLD! SEIZE HIM... HE IS A SORCERER!

NO! I CAN EXPLAIN! LISTEN TO ME!



YOU'LL SPEAK TO THE MAGISTRATE! HE WILL PRONOUNCE SENTENCE!

BUT HOW COULD I EXPLAIN? TO SPEAK OF THE ELIXIR WOULD ONLY HAVE PROVED MY GUILT IN THEIR EYES! MY LIPS WERE SEALED AS...



THE EVIDENCE IS ENOUGH... HE IS A WIZARD! ON THE MORROW, HE SHALL BE PUT TO THE STAKE!

YES! HE MUST PERISH!

IT LOOKED HOPELESS FOR ME, BUT I WAS LUCKY IN HAVING A GREEDY GUARD...



THIS GOLD IS FOR YOU... AND MORE... IF YOU WILL... LET ME GO! YOU CAN TELL THEM THAT I MADE MYSELF INVISIBLE... AND ESCAPED!

GIVE ME THE GOLD, OLD MAN!

THE CENTURIES DRAGGED ON, AND THE ELIXIR DWINDLED! I GREW WEARY OF LIFE, ITS ENDLESS SAMENESS... FOR MANY OF ITS JOYS WERE DENIED ME...

HOW CAN I EVER MARRY... MY SECRET WOULD BE REVEALED IN A FEW YEARS! I MUST ALWAYS MAKE **NEW FRIENDS**...

I HAVE SEEN INNUMERABLE COMRADES COME AND GO... SCORES OF LOVED ONES GO TO THEIR FINAL PEACE! I TELL YOU, **LASTING LIFE IS A CURSE!** I AM **SICK OF IT**... I LONG FOR **REST!**

I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT... NOT A **WORD** OF IT!

I **TOLD** YOU YOU WOULD DOUBT MY TALE! A LITTLE ELIXIR REMAINS, BUT I AM TOO TIRED FOR ANOTHER JOURNEY TO GREECE... OH, HOW **WEARY** I AM...

NURSE! COME QUICKLY!

726

THAT NIGHT...

WHAT'S THE **MATTER** WITH YOU, DARLING? YOU SEEM **MILES AWAY!**

IT'S DRIVING ME CRAZY, ALICE! THAT STORY **CAN'T** BE TRUE... AND YET...

AFTER THE OLD MAN'S DEATH, AN EXTENSIVE AUTOPSY WAS PERFORMED! THE HEAD PATHOLOGIST WAS STARTLED...

I'M TELLING YOU HE MUST HAVE BEEN **OVER A HUNDRED YEARS OLD!** I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH AGED TISSUES!

A **HUNDRED** YEARS OLD? FOR ALL YOU KNOW, HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN A **THOUSAND**... OR MORE!

NOT LONG AFTERWARD, FARROW WAS MARRIED! BUT NOT EVEN THE START OF A NEW LIFE COULD QUENCH THE BAWING CURIOSITY WHICH HAD BEEN BORN IN HIM...

ISN'T IT **WONDERFUL**, DARLING? A TOUR OF EUROPE FOR OUR **HONEYMOON!**

YES, A TOUR WHICH WILL TAKE US TO **GREECE!**

ALICE NOTICED A CURIOUS KIND OF QUALITY IN HER HUSBAND, AN INCREASING NERVOUSNESS... UNTIL GREECE WAS AT LAST REACHED...

AND THIS IS THE FAMOUS **PARTHENON**... THE NOBLEST MONUMENT OF **ANCIENT ATHENS!**

YOU'RE NOT EVEN **LISTENING**, DEAREST!



CRITO HAD GIVEN HIM A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE CAVE SITE IN THE HILLS SURROUNDING ATHENS...AND NOW, DR. FARROW FELT HE HAD TO INVESTIGATE...

TELL YOU WHAT, HONEY... YOU GO SHOPPING THIS AFTERNOON! I HAVE...ER... A COUPLE OF ERRANDS TO RUN!

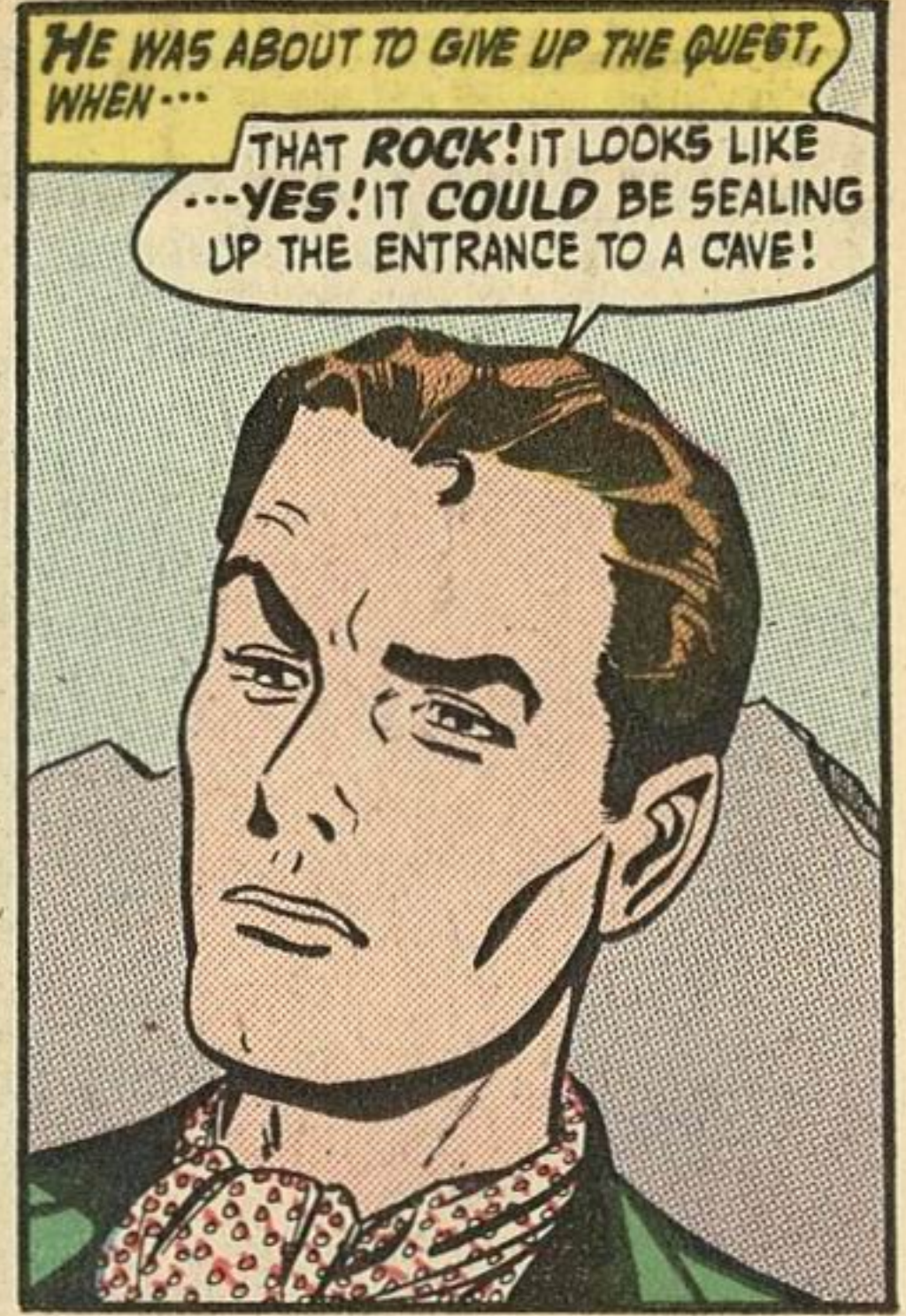
OKAY! MEET YOU HERE AT FIVE O'CLOCK!

A COUPLE OF ERRANDS TO RUN!



HE SEARCHED FOR HOURS... WITHOUT SUCCESS...

HE SAID IT WAS JUST ABOUT HERE! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THERE WAS NOTHING TO HIS YARN!



HE WAS ABOUT TO GIVE UP THE QUEST, WHEN...

THAT ROCK! IT LOOKS LIKE... YES! IT COULD BE SEALING UP THE ENTRANCE TO A CAVE!



IT TOOK EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH, BUT FINALLY THE ROCK MOVED...

GREAT GUNS! IT... IT MIGHT BE TRUE! THERE'S AN OPENING BEHIND IT!



A STRANGE, MUSTY ODOR ROSE FROM THE CAVERN! FARROW STAGGERED INSIDE, AND THE AMAZING RIDDLE APPROACHED ITS ORDAINED END...

IT'S JUST AS HE SAID... EXACTLY! AND THERE'S THE BEAKER!



ONLY A TRACE OF LIQUID REMAINED! FARROW LOOKED AT IT INTENTLY, FIGHTING TEMPTATION! BUT HIS CURIOSITY WAS TOO GREAT...

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO FIND OUT... THE ONLY WAY! IT... IT DOES BURN... I FEEL DIZZY...



BACK AT THE HOTEL, ALICE HAD BEGUN TO WORRY! IT WASN'T LIKE THE YOUNG DOCTOR TO BE AN HOUR AND A HALF LATE...

KNOCK! KNOCK!

AH, THAT MUST BE HIM NOW! I WONDER WHAT COULD HAVE KEPT HIM?



A FIVE-YEAR-OLD BOY STOOD AT THE DOOR, LOOKING UP WITH FRIGHTENED, HELPLESS EYES...

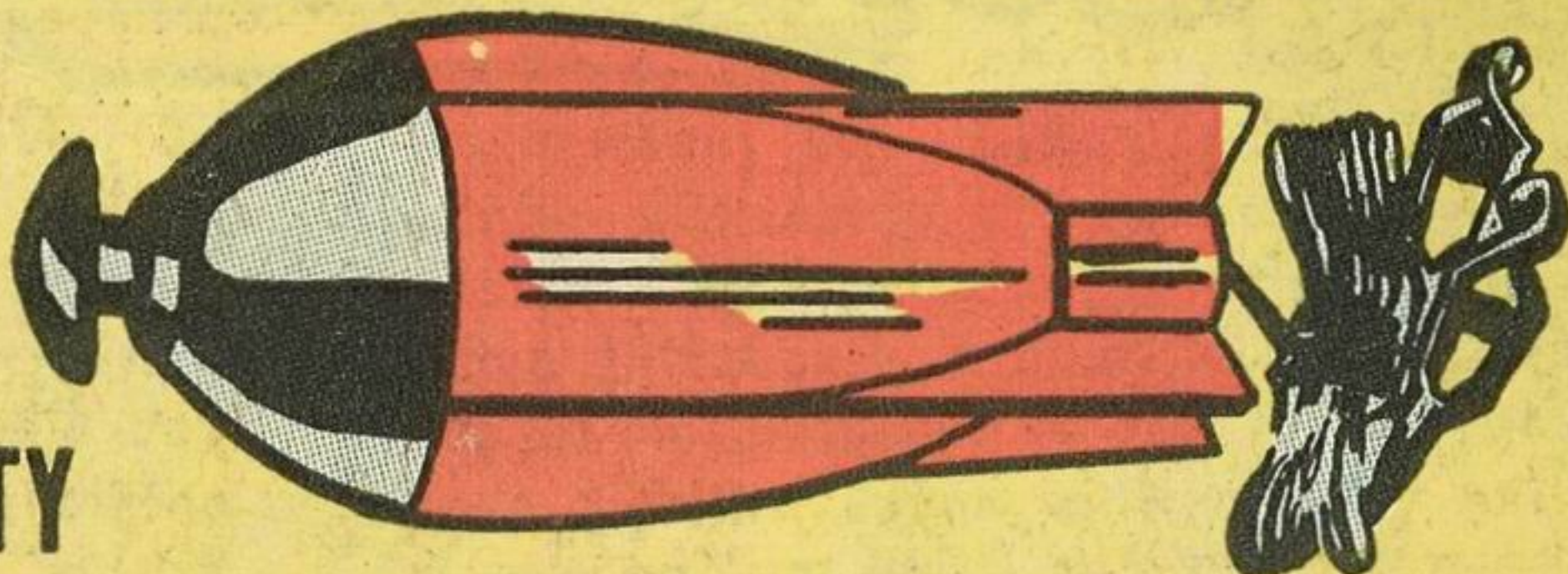
YES? WHO ARE YOU?

ALICE! D-DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME? IT... IT'S ME!

THE END!

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- ★ NO BATTERIES
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- ☐ I enclose payment ☐ Send C.O.D.

Name _____

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RUSH

ORDER TODAY!

From **YOUR EDITOR-** to **YOU!**

HELLO, ALL you readers and fans of "Forbidden Worlds"! We're going to do something different this issue. Instead of discussing some subject of our own choice, we're going to give this space entirely over to you folks, in order to give you a representative sampling of the mail

we editors are receiving from our readership. And after you read these letters, how about sitting down and writing to us yourself? Tell us how you like this issue, addressing your opinions to The Editor, "Forbidden Worlds", 45 West 45th Street, New York 36, N. Y. Meanwhile...here goes!

"Dear Editor:-

Three cheers for 'The Davy Crockett Mystery' in your December issue! It was the best story I ever read in any comics magazine...as usual, 'Forbidden Worlds', leads all the rest!

...David R. McBride, Chicago, Ill."

"Dear Editor:-

Just a few words to tell you how much I enjoyed 'Forbidden Worlds' No. 37, your October issue. Every story you ran was right on the beam. I liked 'Journey Into the Past' best...sure would like to see a movie made out of that one! 'One Exciting Knight' was a lot of fun, and I got a charge out of 'Step by Step'. Just call me a reader forever!

...T. Brandinger, New Orleans, La."

"Dear Editor:-

You invited us to write in and tell what we thought of your stories. I'm a new reader of 'Forbidden Worlds', but here goes anyway! 'The Identical Twins'...an interesting yarn throughout. 'Nine Fathoms Deep'...one of the best I've ever read in a comic. 'Journey Into Time'...about average, and the poorest of the lot. But your short features are swell! You've guessed it...I'm going to be a steady subscriber!

...Helen Dunsany, Los Angeles, Cal."

"Dear Editor:-

I just finished reading my latest copy of 'Forbidden Worlds', and want to congratulate you on a great magazine. 'The Davy Crockett Mystery' gripped me from beginning to end, and I'll never forget it. I liked 'Stella and the Stranger', too. Keep up the good work!

...Bill Burdick, Trenton, N. J."

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (TITLE 39, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 233)

OF FORBIDDEN WORLDS, published Monthly at St. Louis, Mo., for October 1, 1955.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Best Syndicated Features, Inc., 420 DeSoto Ave., St. Louis, Mo.; Editor, Richard E. Hughes, 120 West 183 St., New York, N.Y.; Managing editor, None; Business manager, Frederick H. Iger, 28 Sycamore Drive, Sands Point, N.Y.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.) Best Syndicated Features, Inc., 420 DeSoto Ave., St. Louis, Mo.; Frederick H. Iger, 28 Sycamore Drive, Sands Point, N.Y.; H. Donenfeld, 223 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

(Signed) RICHARD E. HUGHES, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of October, 1955.

James S. Phair, Notary Public, State of New York.
(My commission expires March 30, 1957)

A QUESTION of \$64,000!

SLEEP WELL, AL... YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE IT ALL!
THE WHOLE \$64,000!

Y-YES... I
KNOW... I CAN'T
LOSE...

EVERYONE DREAMS OF APPEARING ON
A QUIZ PROGRAM SOME DAY... AND GOING
ON TO TAKE THE BIG JACKPOT! BUT AL
PERRY'S WAS A STRANGE EXPERIENCE
...VERY STRANGE! JUST READ ON...
AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!

BY ETSION

IT WAS A MORNING LIKE ANY OTHER, AND AL WAS OPENING
HIS MAIL...

MARY! THEY...
THEY ACCEPTED
ME! I'M GOING
TO BE ON THE
PROGRAM!

YOU MEAN THE
\$64,000
QUESTION?
OH, AL... HOW
WONDERFUL!

HE WAS A YOUNG LAWYER STARTING HIS CAREER, AND
ANYTHING HE WON WOULD COME IN VERY HANDY...

GOSH, IF YOU COULD ONLY
WIN ABOUT \$2,000! IT
WOULD PAY FOR A CAR!

DON'T WORRY...
IF I GET THAT HIGH
I'LL QUIT! YOU WON'T
SEE ME GOING
GREEDY!

IN THE WEEKS BEFORE THE PROGRAM, HE BECAME INCREASINGLY NERVOUS...

IT'S AFTER MIDNIGHT, DEAR... YOU NEED YOUR SLEEP!

SOON, HONEY! I'VE GOT TO STUDY... MY CATEGORY'S LITERATURE, AND THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING TO LEARN!



AT LAST, THE BIG DAY... AND AL COULD DO NO WORK...

FOUR O'CLOCK... JUST A FEW HOURS TO GO! GOSH, WHAT WOULDN'T I GIVE TO GO ALL THE WAY? ALL THE THINGS I COULD DO...



AFTER DINNER THAT NIGHT, HE WAS A MASS OF NERVES...

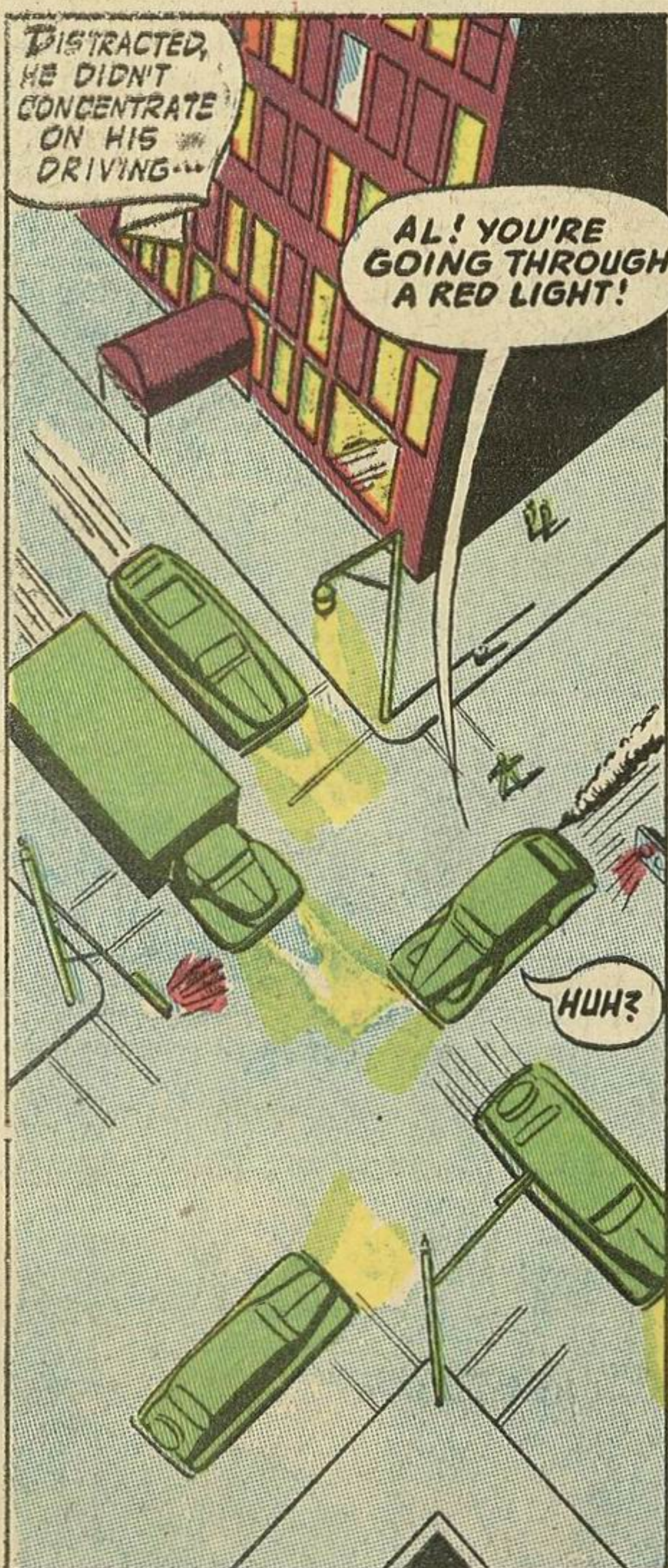
TAKE IT EASY! IF YOU DON'T, YOU WON'T REMEMBER A THING!

I'M GOING TO FREEZE IN FRONT OF THOSE CAMERAS... I JUST KNOW IT!



DISTRACTED, HE DIDN'T CONCENTRATE ON HIS DRIVING...

AL! YOU'RE GOING THROUGH A RED LIGHT!



THE TRUCK BEARING DOWN FROM THE SIDE STREET HAD NO TIME TO STOP...

OH-HH!



FORTUNATELY, NO ONE WAS HURT...

YA STUPID MORON! YA WENT THROUGH THAT LIGHT...

I KNOW! I'M SORRY, FELLA!



OKAY, OKAY, LET'S HAVE THE STORY STRAIGHT ... IN DETAIL!

IT WAS THIS WAY...

LISTEN TO ME... PLEASE! I DON'T HAVE TIME!



HE EXPLAINED QUICKLY THAT HE WAS TO APPEAR THAT NIGHT AS A CONTESTANT ON "THE \$64,000 QUESTION"...



HE ARRIVED AT THE STATION JUST IN TIME... HIS NERVES ALMOST SHATTERED...



HE WASN'T AWARE OF THE CAMERAS OF THE SEA OF FACES STARING AT HIM! HE SEEMED TO BE IN A TRANCE...



\$64...\$128...\$256...\$512! HE ANSWERED THEM ALL CORRECTLY! THE \$1,000 QUESTION CAME AND WENT...



THE PRESSURE MOUNTED AS THE \$2,000 QUESTION WAS REACHED! ALL OVER AMERICA, FAMILIES HUDDLED AROUND THEIR TV SETS AND BIT THEIR NAILS...



30 SECONDS IN WHICH TO ANSWER... AND HE DIDN'T KNOW! THEN, ASTONISHINGLY, HE SEEMED TO HEAR A FARAWAY VOICE WHISPERING...

HER NAME WAS GERTRUDE... GERTRUDE!



HE HAD VOWED TO STOP AT \$2,000... BUT NOW SOMETHING IMPELLED HIM TO GO ON...



AGAIN THE STRANGE VOICE HAD PROVIDED HIM WITH THE ANSWER! HAVING WON \$8,000, FINALLY, HE WAS REQUIRED TO GO HOME AND DECIDE WHETHER HE WOULD GO ON FOR \$16,000!

NO, AL... PLEASE! YOU'VE WON ENOUGH!

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? SOME WEIRD FORCE IS GIVING ME THE RIGHT ANSWERS... THIS IS THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME!

THE INTENSE EXCITEMENT BUILT UP TO A FRENZY! THE NEXT WEEK, IN THE ISOLATION BOOTH...

FOR \$16,000... NAME THE SIX NOVELS OF JANE AUSTEN!

OKAY, AL, HERE ARE THE ANSWERS!

CONFIDENTLY, HE REPEATED THE TITLES...

PERSUASION, EMMA, NORTHANGER ABBEY, SENSE AND SENSIBILITY, PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, AND MANSFIELD PARK!

ABSOLUTELY CORRECT!

THE COUNTRY WAS IN AN UPROAR... AS AL WENT ON TO ANSWER THE \$32,000 QUESTION SUCCESSFULLY! FINALLY, THE BIG ONE APPROACHED, AND FROM ALL SIDES CAME WARNINGS...

YOU'RE MAD! YOU CAN'T RISK WHAT YOU'VE WON!

INCOME TAXES WILL TAKE MOST OF IT ANYHOW!

I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU SAY... I'M GOING ON!

MILLIONS OF VIEWERS WAITED BREATHLESSLY...

WELL, MR. PERRY... ARE YOU GOING AFTER THE JACKPOT?

I CERTAINLY AM!

THE QUESTION WAS FIENDISHLY DIFFICULT! AL COULD NEVER HAVE DEALT WITH IT... WERE IT NOT FOR THE PECULIAR AID HE RECEIVED...

FOR \$64,000! NAME THE ESTATE ON WHICH **TOLSTOY**, THE AUTHOR OF "**WAR AND PEACE**," WAS BORN... ALSO THE DATE OF HIS BIRTH AND DEATH... AND THE NAME OF HIS FIRST BOOK!

A REAL TOUGHIE, EH? OKAY, AL... HERE GOES!

TOLSTOY WAS BORN IN 1828... DIED 1910! HIS FIRST BOOK WAS CALLED "**CHILDHOOD**"... AND THE NAME OF THE ESTATE WAS **YASNAYA POLYANA**!

YOU'VE DONE IT!

THERE WAS A DIZZYING RUSH, AND AL OPENED HIS EYES! WHY... HE WAS BACK IN HIS OWN OFFICE!

OH, NO! IT... IT WAS ALL A DREAM! I HAVEN'T EVEN GONE ON THE PROGRAM YET!



KEENLY DISAPPOINTED, HE WENT HOME TO DINNER! HE TOLD HIS WIFE EVERYTHING IN MINUTEST DETAIL...

...AND THE FUNNY THING IS...IT SEEMED SO REAL!

IT WAS JUST A DREAM, SO FORGET IT! BUT IF YOU SHOULD WIN \$2,000, BE SURE TO STOP!



STILL VERY UPSET BY HIS DREAM, AL DIDN'T CONCENTRATE ON HIS DRIVING...

AL! YOU'RE GOING THROUGH A RED LIGHT!

HUH?



THE TRUCK BEARING DOWN FROM THE SIDE STREET HAD NO TIME TO STOP...

OH-HH!

WHAM!

INCREDIBLY, EVERYTHING WAS HAPPENING EXACTLY AS BEFORE! THE TRUCKDRIVER AND POLICE OFFICER APPEARED...

YA STUPID MORON! YA WENT THROUGH THAT LIGHT...

LET'S HAVE THE STORY STRAIGHT... IN DETAIL!

IT...IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!



AGAIN AL EXPLAINED, AND AGAIN HE WAS LET GO! BUT NOW, WHEN THEY REACHED THE STATION...

IT...IT'S ALL HAPPENING EXACTLY AS I DREAMED! I...I'M GOING TO WIN \$64,000, HONEY... I KNOW IT!



OH, AL... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE!

CONFIDENCE SEETHED WITHIN HIM AS HE WAITED HIS TURN! BUT AS HE WATCHED THE CONTESTANT BEFORE HIM...

AND WHAT CATEGORY HAVE YOU CHOSEN?

WELL, I'D LIKE TO TRY LITERATURE!

NO...NO! SHE MUSTN'T!



HE LISTENED IN AGONY AS THE QUESTIONS CAME FORTH...THE QUESTIONS HE SHOULD HAVE HAD! THE WOMAN WAS SUCCESSFUL, UNTIL...

I...I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW THE NAME OF HAMLET'S MOTHER!



I'M TERRIBLY SORRY! HER NAME WAS...GERTRUDE!

SO IT WAS THAT WHEN AL'S TURN CAME...HE RECEIVED A WHOLE NEW SET OF QUESTIONS! LUCKILY, HE COULD ANSWER THEM... AND WHEN HE HAD WON \$2,000...

I DON'T THINK I'LL PRESS MY LUCK ANY FURTHER...I'M STOPPING RIGHT HERE!



BUT INSTEAD OF BEING HAPPY, AL WAS MISERABLE IN THE FOLLOWING DAYS...AND NO ONE BUT HIS WIFE COULD UNDERSTAND WHY!

The END!

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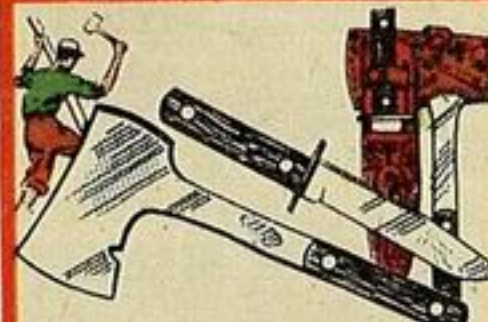
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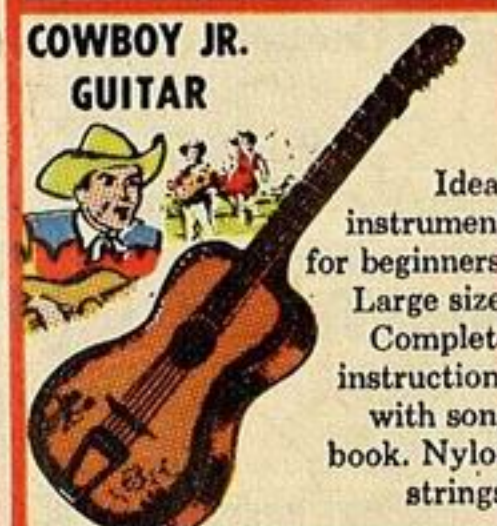
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